Dr. Sharp
Dr. Jackman
Agenda for Advisory Committee

September 16, 1955

There are two things which might be put on the agenda of the meeting of the Advisory Committee on Missionary Operation, Wednesday, September 21st. One is a report on the arrangements for our preaching mission to Alaska during the third week of October. The other is the matter of an eskimo center for Fairbanks. We have discussed this before and have reached no conclusion or action. During the last few days another appealing letter has come from Mrs. Rasmussen who talked with me about it when I was in Fairbanks in April. She points up the problem and expresses her belief that the Christian Church has a responsibility of doing something for these people who have come out of our work on the Arctic Coast into the confusion of western civilization in a pioneering area. I feel it ought to be presented to the Advisory Committee to see if something can be done about it.

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:bc

Re Presbyterian Hostel

OCT 3 1 1955

Fairbanks, Alaska
708 Fulton-Slaterville
October 27, 1955

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
Board of National Missions
Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Dear Dr. Jackman:

I had hoped to get this information to you sooner, but, due to having difficulty in contacting the proper people, was unable to do so. However, I believe I have about as much as is available.

We discussed the number of Eskimos living in and around Fairbanks. As nearly as we can figure the total would be about five hundred and as many or more Indians. You know of course that although many of them do live in Fairbanks the year round, many do not and they are the ones we are most concerned about.

Miss Smith, A. N. S. worker reports that in the Spring and Fall, she has from 70 to 150 students either going to school or returning to their homes. She is continually having trouble finding places for them so they will be properly cared for while in town, sometimes for a few days, waiting for planes to take them to their destination. As it is she must put them up in the hotels, providing of course the hotels have the room, without the proper supervision. All during the year she has numbers of children and young people, sometimes older ones, who must come to town for medical care, or to stop on their way for San care. They very often have to be tucked in with their relatives while here exposing others or if not actually ill themselves, perhaps contracting disease from others. Often young "mothers to be" come in just for their confinement and need a place to stay for a few days. They also need a bit of instruction in the care of their babies, but usually go back to the village just as ignorant as they came. Miss Smith was hard put to it to find places for the children who came from Anaktuvik Pass just last week and had to put them in Eskimo village which is overcrowded and dirty to start with. However, there was no choice. It's a good thing Eskimos do not turn anyone away. The amount paid toward the care of anyone placed by A. N. S. is $3.00 per day.

The Department of Public Welfare reports the need for a place to put girls temporarily. They average about four a month. These girls are for the most part young and could be helped but right now the only thing to do with them until a proper place is found, is to put them in the Detention Home, where they are exposed to the older girls who are habitual offenders. The Welfare would be willing to pay $25.00 per month for each bed kept for them. They would want perhaps four.

Miss Mayo from the Detention Home tells me that most all the girls she has brought in are Native girls. She is a Christian and does her best but as she said, "What can I do when they must go right back to the old life?" They do not of course know how to work and once they get started living that kind of life they do not care too much. They are too new to our way of life to realize what this does to them later. However I have talked with a few of them and they have expressed a desire either to get away from the habit of drink or to learn to live decently. Not many though. It is too late.

As to my own experience and knowledge of conditions. I have in my file at home the names of about fifty girls - some have been cared for by the Welfare- some we were able to get to go back to their villages and others have just drifted away. I see them once in a great while. However, there are several that could still be helped. Right now I am just trying to keep those together that have not as yet gotten started down hill. People are getting to know of our interest and will contact us when they know of a girl on the

loose in town. Last week I went through some of the down town taverns to try to locate an eskimo girl. As I went from one bar to the other I saw several native girls and women, sitting drinking, some by themselves and some trying to interest the men who were there too. That was during the afternoon so what it is by evening I can well imagine. I did see one girl who was one of the best a year ago. Had we had the facilities then, she might have been helped.

You asked to know also what size building we would need. Well, that is not so easy to say. However, it must have enough room for a large living-room, either a large kitchen, or a kitchen and dining-room. It should have three or four large bedrooms or a number of smaller ones. At least room enough to make into separate rooms and yet have room to put up cots in emergencies. Every house we have looked at has been in the range of $28,000 to $35,000. They have large basements and plenty of storage room and are most of them useable. However, yesterday I looked at a house selling for $18,000 with $3,000 down and the rest in monthly payments of about $300 per month with interest at 9%. It does not have a full basement but has a log house as well as the main house that would have room enough so that we could have a sewing room for the girls as well as a shop for work with the boys. It would also have room for three small bedrooms and one large room. It will not be for rent as the woman who owns it wishes to leave the city. The men will have to look at it before we will know if it is suitable. I believe you know about the other houses we have in mind.

I realize these figures do not make a very great showing as to the need of a home, but, it is just as necessary to take care of these as in the areas where there are so many more. If something is not done before the need becomes even greater, it will be a far more expensive undertaking than it now looks to be. It does seem that the cost is going to be quite high for the number of people to be helped but that is Alaska. It costs just about twice as much to do anything up here as it does anywhere else. Still, it can be done.

I'm wondering if you had any success with Dr. Albrecht. He was in Fairbanks for a week attending the Regent's meeting at College. Of course, he never stops in at the Health Center when he is in town so we didn't see him. He is a very busy man.

Our group seems to be growing. We have had several visitors in church the past two Sundays from Barrow and some from Anaktuvik Pass but there are others who are coming more steadily. Our Wednesday night meetings are showing a number of young people which is promising. We have also had a request to pick up some who live too far too walk but would like to come for Sunday School and we will make arrangements for them to be brought in. All in all our Eskimo work is growing. Mr. Turner has been doing some calling and it seems to bring them in.

I believe I have covered most everything so will close. We are all looking forward to your next visit and hope by that time to have something really started on our "home".

Sincerely,

Mable R. Rasmussen

October 10, 1955

Rev. Victor Alfsen
First Presbyterian Church
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Vic:

I have called the Building Aid and Legal Office again regarding the papers covering your grant and loan from the Board of National Missions. Mr. Irvine informs me that the qualifying papers have not been returned indicating that everything is in order about your arrangements so that the check can be released to the church.

The time of the loan has been extended by the Board so that every protection and precaution has been taken here. We understand when these last qualifying papers are in in completed form the way will be open to send a check to you.

I expect to be in Fairbanks October 14 and will rejoice in looking over the progress you have made up to this point. We trust some arrangements will be made for you to take advantage of the ministry of Si Kessler during his visit with you.

Regards to all the family.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:ms
cc: Dr. R. Rolland Armstrong

Re Juneau Hostel
Presby Juneau
ex Sitka

November 1, 1955

VIA AIRMAIL
Dr. C. Earl Albrecht
Commissioner of Health
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Earl:

Many of us are most concerned about the exploitation of Eskimo girls in Fairbanks. At least thirty of them can be listed as being in jail, in the clinic for social diseases etc. We have been discussing the possibility of a center for Eskimos--mainly for girls but also for boys--with an apartment for a couple-in-charge, a social room and a few dormitory-type rooms. The old question of funds and personnel is raised.

Mrs. Mabel Rasmussen of your department in Fairbanks, has a Christian concern for this and is urging our Church and Board to do something about it. There is talk of renting a house in which to experiment with such a oject and a little money seems to be available. Mrs. Rasmussen has been asked if she and her husband would move in for the experimental period. She has indicated her willingness if she can get a leave of absence from her position for about six months to try it. I was supposed to ask you last week, at Anchorage, for your attitude on the leave but in the pressure of time for the program I forgot it. Would you be willing for her to have a leave for about six months to experiment with this if it materializes?

Cordially yours,

JEJ:dj
cc Dr. Armstrong

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

Dictated through letter from field;
signed in his absence

P.S. Thanks for your contribution in our meeting in Anchorage. The progress in the health program in Alaska under your leadership has been outstanding and we commend you for it.

DEC 28 1955

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

C. EARL ALBRECHT, M.D. COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

ALASKA OFFICE BUILDING JUNEAU, ALASKA

December 22, 1955

The Reverend J. Earl Jackman, D.D.
Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska
Board of National Missions of the
Presbyterian Church
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Dear Dr. Jackman:

Your letter, which was dictated in the field, is now being answered by a letter dictated on a trip to the East. Actually, I am much closer to you than you might have thought. At the present time, I am staying at 6012 Drexel Road, Philadelphia 31, Pennsylvania.

With reference to your letter, I have the following comments to make:

Mrs. Mable Rasmussen, as you indicate, is an employee of the Health Department and an extremely valuable one. She works at the Fairbanks Health Center, which center carries an extremely heavy clinic service load. If Mrs. Rasmussen were to request a leave of absence it would seriously cripple our program, I fear, inasmuch as she is a most responsible individual who is able to relieve our hard-working nurses of a great deal of the routine work. To obtain a replacement for her, either for a six-month's period or permanently, would be extremely difficult. I know that this is not the answer you would like but I have been constantly aware of the problems existent in the Fairbanks Center which result from too much work and too few people.

I know the project will be a very worthy one and should be taken care of because I believe you have noted a real deficiency in caring for these Eskimo girls who move into Fairbanks.

It was indeed a pleasure to meet with you in Anchorage and I am only sorry that I cannot be of more help to you.

Sincerely yours,

Earl.

C. Earl Albrecht, M.D.
Commissioner of Health

CEA:jb

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
QUEEN AND MARKET STREETS
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA

DEC 27 1955

MINISTERS
ERNEST T. CAMPBELL
PHILIP RODGERS MAGEE

MINISTER OF MUSIC
RALPH SCOTT GROVER

December 22, 1955

Dr. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman:

I am enclosing herewith a check for $154.66, which we would like to apply toward the projected Youth Hostel for Eskimos in Fairbanks, Alaska.

I trust that in the near future I will be able to forward more money for this purpose. I feel that the need is real and challenging.

Thank you for your nice Christmas card. Here's wishing you and yours the best of everything in 1956.

Sincerely,

ETC:mh

Enc.
Check $154.66

JD Treasury 12/28/55.

DEC 27 1955

December 23, 1955

Dear Dr. Jackman:

Just a note with a card to you. This is late but time just flies and there are so many things to do in preparation for Christmas. We had our Eskimo Christmas program last Sunday and it went off quite well. We are thoroughly enjoying the help and leadership of Rev. Parker. He is wonderful to work with. I really feel that in general he is going to be of much help.

We had our Homemaker's Club party last night and those who were there enjoyed it much, myself most of all. We had a little girl from Noorvik who has had to be in town for medical care and the girls just took her in and made her feel right at home. However, two of our girls were missing, one in the Federal jail and one in the Detention Home. The one in the Federal jail was in need of a lesson. She is 18 and the mothe r of an 18 mos. old boy. Ordinarily she is a good girl but just got started going out when one of our other Eskimo girls came home from the San and got her started. She is quite ashamed of herself, which is a good sign. I shall ask Mr. Parker to visit her. However, we shall tell her of the things she should not do, which she knows already, but still we have no solution as to where she can spend her idle time. Well, that is being prayed about. Then the girl in the Detention Home, 15 yrs. has been missing school and is in about the very poorest kind of home. She was sick of it. Two weeks ago she called us and asked us what to do as her mother had become angry and told her to "get out". Well, we took her in and she stayed with us for two weeks but then her little brother was roaming the streets uncared for and what with one thing and another she decided to go home again. We were in contact with the Welfare and now that she has left again, she went to the Detention Home. I do not know why she did not come back to us except that she was with another girl and she knew we had no room for two in our little trailer. She will be kept in the Detention Home now until there is room for her at the Maranatha Home. So now there are three girls being held because there is no place for them to live. There will be many more, I'm afraid. After going

to school and seeing how many white people live, the native girls get sick of their own homes. Well, just another one of the things that time itself perhaps can correct. So many of our young women are going the wrong way and it is impossible now to help them. They do not want it. The statement was made to me recently that it seems that much of this shows us to be in the "last days". I fully believe it myself but then if so, we must work that much harder. It is certainly true that Satan seems to be concerning himself with our people.

Well, I should not perhaps, tell you these things now. It is Christmas, but to me there is sorrow with the joy and we cannot shut our eyes to it. We will be praying much that the Lord rules entirely in your next National Board meeting (Missions). Wishing you much success and all good things in the Lord.

Sincerely,

Mable R. Rasmussen

Mrs. Harry Rasmussen
708 - Fulton - Slaterville
Fairbanks, Alaska.

DEC 2 8 1955

Fairbanks, Alaska,
December 26, 1955.

Dr. J.Earl Jackman,
Dept. of Work in Alaska.
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Jackman:

Your letter of the 19th received. Many thanks for the information. I have also heard from the Employment Security Commission with reference to the status declaration and my work. They have informed me that I am exempt.

We had a very nice time last week and yesterday with the Eskimo services. They put on a good program the 18th. They seemed to feel quite at home. Yesterday there was a goodly attendance. Many of those who were here last summer have returned to their old homes. We have now, only those who have regular jobs here in the City. Some of them have to work on Sunday, but are present for the night services. The 3 P.M, services are mostly Mothers and children for the S.S.. A few men come and all remain for the Preaching service.

I hope to get some real information this week for making estimates of the need of a Center for them. I'm sure there is a need for it at certain times of the year, especially when the children and young folks are going to and from school, and then there are those who pass through to and from the San. Often they are detained because of weather. and they have no place to stay. There is also the local problem of the Bars and the Base. Foolish Eskimo girls fall for the smooth talk of the fellow in uniform. It will call for a real consecrated Supervisor to handle the setup. But I think it will be a great assett to our work in Alaska. Just a few days ago a couple of our boys returning from the San were sent to the Salvation Army for a couple days entertainment till flying weather opened up. We did not know about it at the time. Even if we had, what could we do?

Your proposition to help Ron Snelling for the summer looks as though we may be able to work it out. I do not find much pleasure in the hustle of the States. If I see the folks for a few days and make the trip to G.A. and visit a few of my supporting churches, I will be ready to come back. I will have only about 18 months left for service with you, and I want to put it all in for the Master as best I can.

There is one thing I want to do while here. I feel it is in the will of the Lord too, as I have been praying about it. I want to make a short visit to Barrow and Barter Island. There have been several here for medical treatment and I have made friends with them. Each one that has returned has asked me to come to see them. I think it would be an encouragement to all of them to make a visit even if only a few days. I'll talk to Army about it when he gets back from Juneau.

Most Sincerely Yours,

Elmer

Eskimo Youth Hostel File

December 29, 1955

Dr. Ernest T. Campbell
First Presbyterian Church
Queen and Market Streets
York, Pennsylvania

Dear Ernie:

Many thanks to you for the check for $154.66 which has been received for the Youth Hostel for Eskimos in Fairbanks, Alaska. A special fund has been set up in the Treasury Department to receive all contributions for this particular project. We deeply appreciate your interest in it and your efforts to secure funds for it.

You will be interested to know that enthusiasm for the Eskimo services is continuing through the winter even though the church facilities are very limited for this activity. The Rev. Elmer Parker who formerly served among the Eskimos on St. Lawrence Island is now in Fairbanks and giving special attention to them there. Mrs. Rasmussen who has been pressing us to do something on this, reports that he has been well received among the people.

We have been having some conferences here about building needs allover the National Missions fields. At this point it would appear that we might have as much as a half million dollars available from the Priority Giving of 1955 for National Missions building projects. Our various departments have submitted our lists of things which need to be done in our respective fields and they total two and a half millions. It looks as though Alaska would get one out of five major projects which need attention immediately.

Best wishes to you during the holiday season.

Cordially yours,

JEJ:dj

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Sunday School Missions
and Mobile Ministries

Eskimo youth Center Pdr.

January 4, 1956

VIA AIRMAIL
Mrs. Harry Rasmussen
708 Fulton-Slaterville
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Mrs. Rasmussen:

Thanks to you and your husband for the beautiful Christmas greeting card which you sent. We do appreciate your remembering us during the Christmas season.

Thanks also for the additional information which you had in your letter of December 23 about the situation among the Eskimo girls and young people. It certainly shows that some Christiam ministry should be more active and reach out farther among the Eskimo people before they get into many of these difficulties.

We have finally had a letter from Dr. Albrecht from a Philadelphia, Pennsylvania address. In it he bore testimony to the great value of your service where you are and said that it would be most difficult for them to get anyone to succeed you for a period of six months to one year, both from the standpoint of the quality of your work and the period of time involved. He stated that he appreciated the problem and was sympathetic toward our attempt to solve it among the Eskimo young people in Fairbanks but felt he had to say no to our request for a leave of absence for you.

Dr. Armstrong and I have been discussing the project of the Center for the Eskimos in Fairbanks and he tells me that he has laid before several of you there some very definite questions which ought to bring to us the pertinent information needed to present a request for a building and a program. During 1956, our needs for capital funds for buildings are five times greater than our resources and we are not going to be able to do all of the things which we would like to do. The ministers who were on the Preaching Mission to Alaska in October

have presented this need to some of their congregations and some funds are coming in from this source. This shows we are all definitely interested in it and hope to have sufficient information soon which we could use to request financial assistance.

Best wishes to you for the new year.

Sincerely yours,

JEJ:dj
cc: Dr. Armstrong

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

January 4, 1956

VIA AIRMAIL
Mrs. Harry Rasmussen
708 Fulton-Slaterville
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Mrs. Rasmussen:

Thanks to you and your husband for the beautiful Christmas greeting card which you sent. We do appreciate your remembering us during the Christmas season.

Thanks also for the additional information which you had in your letter of December 23 about the situation among the Eskimo girls and young people. It certainly shows that some Christian ministry should be more active and reach out farther among the Eskimo people before they get into many of these difficulties.

We have finally had a letter from Dr. Albrecht from a Philadelphia, Pennsylvania address. In it he bore testimony to the great value of your service where you are and said that it would be most difficult for them to get anyone to succeed you for a period of six months to one year, both from the standpoint of the quality of your work and the period of time involved. He stated that he appreciated the problem and was sympathetic toward our attempt to solve it among the Eskimo young people in Fairbanks but felt he had to say no to our request for a leave of absence for you.

Dr. Armstrong and I have been discussing the project of the Center for the Eskimos in Fairbanks and he tells me that he has laid before several of you there some very definite questions which ought to bring to us the pertinent information needed to present a request for a building and a program. During 1956, our needs for capital funds for buildings are five times greater than our resources and we are not going to be able to do all of the things which we would like to do. The ministers who were on the Preaching Mission to Alaska in October

have presented this need to some of their congregations and some funds are coming in from this source. This shows we are all definitely interested in it and hope to have sufficient information soon which we could use to request financial assistance.

Best wishes to you for the new year.

Sincerely yours,

JEJ:dj
cc: Dr. Armstrong

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

The Challenge of Christian Living

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
DEPARTMENT OF WORK IN ALASKA

THE REV. J. EARL JACKMAN, D. D.
SECRETARY
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

THE REV. R. ROLLAND ARMSTRONG, D. D.
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
BOX 2539, JUNEAU, ALASKA

February 21,1956

Re: Fairbanks Youth Center
Proposed budget.

Rev. J. Earl Jackman, D.D.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Earl:

Just before leaving Fairbanks I had a fihal conference on the youth hostel project. The summary of our discussion on program and financing is as follows:

The program would in all events be an emergency overnight station. The Salvation Army is not equiped for this service and no agency is giving care to young women.

A canvass of welfare, magistrates courts and other agencies proves without a doubt that we have a partial responsibility. This is qualified for there are many who come from other communions who must be served. It is possible to give care to many of other faiths without the creation of difficulty.

Three types would be cared for: (1) Transients, (2) Those needing medical care and a place to stay, (3) Welfare cases and ANS clients that would be held for these departments.

The objectives would be to take these women out of the enviroment of the town that causes them trouble and to hold them while possible readjustments are made or provision made for moving them back to their villages.

A definite Christian witness would be the positive answer in many cases for these young woman do have christian background. These girls could be taught pratical housekeeping tasks and in many instances could be farmed out for employment until they make their won way and make adjustments.

The financial statement that follows is a rough estimate, but was made up to give us some basis for discussion.

Budget: based on 10 occupants plus staff

Food	$7,200.00	
Fuel	1,200.00	
Electricity and Water	480.00	
Phone	120.00	
Transportation	240.00	
Equipment	450.00	
Linens, etc	100.00	
	$9,790.00	
House Rent	$2,400.00	
Salary	4,000.00	
	$6,400.00	$16,190.00

Receipts as anticipated:

Alaska Dep't Welfare	$1,200.00	
Alaska Native Service	500.00	
First Presbyterian, Fbks	1,000.00	
Presbytery	500.00	
	$3,200.00	
Board of Nat'l Missions Salary	$4,000.00	
	7,200.00	7,200.00
Amount to be raised through local, community chest or stateside gifts over budget, etc		8,990.00

P.S.

It is very possible that the food budget is too high. Many gifts of moose meat, potatoes and other stapels will be given. I would estimate with careful planning that another $3,000 could be pared from the food item.

It is my recommendation that unless some very attractive home is offered at reasonable monthly payments that purchase be discouraged and rental on a lease basis for two to three years be acceptable.

The accompanying financial statement is on a full scale operation. If this is started on a simple basis it might be feasable to launch out and let the project grow. If the Fairbanks people after reviewing this can come up with another budget it should be presented.

It is to be remembered that no contract may be held with the territorial and federal departments without first meeting the standards set for child care institutions. A permitt is issued to an ins titution to show compliance with the law.

There is no doubt in mind as to of the need of this project. I have pointed out that although it is a "rescue mission" work that some exclusion will have to be made of some cases where it is unwise and impratical to deal with them. Careful judgment will have to be exerted constantly or the project will become a hotel instead of rehabilitation center.

I would suggest that whatever funds can be made available be sought and that money already sent to the office be given to the Fairbanks Session for disbursment on this project following some approval from the Board of National Missions.

It is my strong recommendation that the entire project be studied, reviewed and authorized by the local congregation before the project is started.

This will prove to be a good thing for our people as they come into Fairbanks and I hope that our pastors would refer people to the staff of the hostel and set up preventive care instead of letting people come to the community to drift and become lost.

Most sincerely yours

R. Rolland Armstrong

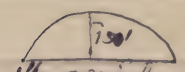
cc: Rev. V. Alfsen
Rev. Brian Cleworth, Moderator

Eskimo services in Fairbanks. 3/56

notes by J.E.J

Mid-week av. 20. Sun. a/t. 38 to 52; S.S. 41-52.

Pur Pr. 5500.
Pd 1000.
am 1000.



1½-2 mi. from W. gate Bnds.

in 3/55 – 3/56 – 21 unwed mothers.

girls find a man to live with & work.

Have 67 Res.

new storm quarters – any girls in there?

10,668. F.R.
4000.
6668.

girls have made as much as $200. in one night.

Eskimo boys won't associate with girls after prostitution.

girls done for in marriage.

in Bd. of C. 2000.

Watch. – $1000.

Greimann House.

8th & 12 on mid. 110 X 150.

2 story & basement. 2 cars garage in bsm

1st flr d – b & bath.

taxes 1294.42

2nd – 5 bdrms & full bath.

8 Fa. a 1000.

Cabin.

heat $1045.

K. liv, ped rm, bath. – $125. mo. rent.

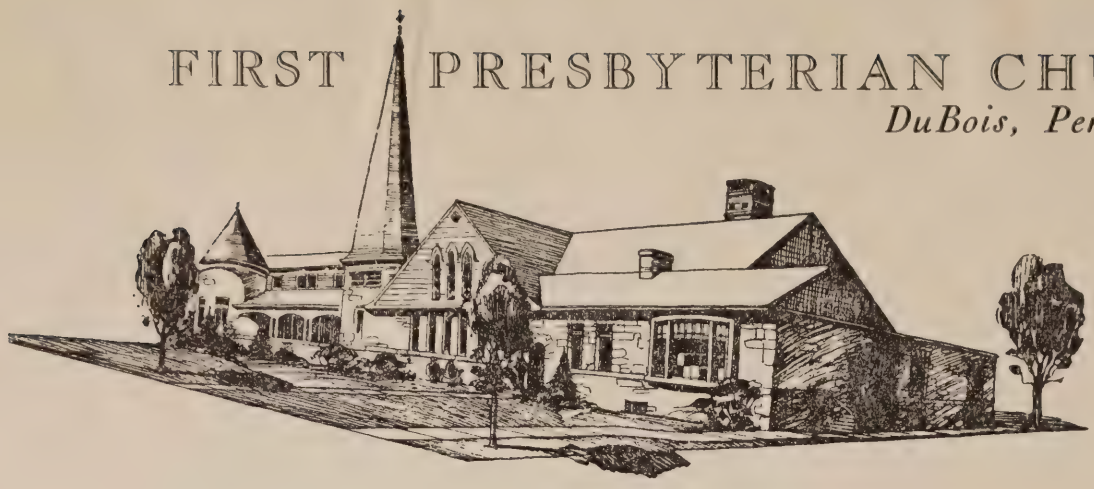
elec 394. Chg.

price 35000.
10,000 down.
25000 @ 6%.

APR 18 1956

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DuBois, Pennsylvania



REV. ROSS M. HAVERFIELD, D.D., *Pastor*
206 E. Second Avenue
DuBois, Pa.

Church Phone 2008
Manse Phone 1843

April 14, 1956

Dear Earl,

I had some communication some time ago about a project in Alaska in which the men who were on the Preaching Mission were proposing, and I have misslaid the letter. I understand this would be a place where young people could be housed while in transit and would be a protection for them. This seemed like an excellent idea, and I would like to turn over anything I may have received from my Alaska talks to that fund. Will you give me more definite information and instructions as to how to make out the check?

When I acknowledge these small honoraria I want to tell the church or organization the use to which this money is to be put.

I am making up a special tape to send to the Stussi's.This will include our Easter Cantata, one of my Morning Devotions over WCED and some organ music. I am anxious to meet Mr. Parker when he comes back to the states for his retirement. Where is he now?

Are you going to at Wooster for our 35th Anniversary? Boy, how time flies!

Best wishes always.

Cordially,

Ross

April 17, 1956

Dr. Ross M. Haverfield
206 E. Second Avenue
Du Bois, Pa.

Dear Dr. Haverfield:

Your communication of the 14th has been received in Dr. Jackman's absence. He is scheduled to return from Alaska tomorrow after a four weeks' trip visiting the fields and attending both Presbytery meetings. Your letter will be brought to his attention just as soon as he has had time to go through the vast accumulation pending his return.

The enclosed "Progress Report " is the one you referred to in your recent letter. Dr. Jackman visited in Fairbanks the latter part of March and will have some "first hand" information on the situation. He did write in from the field asking our Personnel Department to try to find a consecrated Christian couple who would be interested in serving in this Youth Center for the Eskimo people.

Anything our ~~young~~ people in the States can do to help meet this acute need in the Territory will be greatly appreciated. This is a faith venture which we feel certain will prove successful if we put forth a fervent effort.

Mr. Parker attended the meeting of Alaska Presbytery in Metlakatla last week and should be on his way south for furlough before attending the meetings of the General Assembly. He will return to Petersburg immediately following the Assembly to serve our Church there while our missionaries, the Snellings, come out for their furlough. We do not know at this writing what Mr. Parker's plans are after September. We may have another emergency field for him to fill, one never knows!

The Stussi's will be thrilled to receive the tape recording of your various services. This thought will mean a great deal to the Hydaburg people too.

Sincerely yours,

Dept. of Work in Alaska
per

FK
Enc.

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America
156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.

"Progress Report"

Eskimo Youth Center
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dr. Ernest Campbell has stimulated our thinking and has suggested that the ministers who participated in the Evangelistic Mission to Alaska in October, unite on the need for a Center for Eskimo youth in Fairbanks as the one object for which gifts that come to you from your speaking regarding your trip might be designated. Three of you have asked for additional news and we send this brief statement as a "Progress Report."

($3845.93)

Several gifts have been received in amounts from $25 to $500. These are being held in the treasury department for an Eskimo Youth Center in Fairbanks and the present total is ~~$1335.93~~ $3845.93. Several others have written that money is coming into them and they will have contributions to the Fund.

The situation and need for the Center in Fairbanks has been presented to the Board and was received with real sympathy and concern. "Something ought to be done," was the universal comment but the Board was reluctant to take an official action approving the project when funds are not now available for it. There will be about a half million dollars available for National Missions buildings from the priority giving of 1955 but the documented requests total two and a half million. The Eskimo Center is <u>one of six</u> major projects in Alaska which are needed now and we will probably get funds for <u>one</u>.

We are seeking more specific information from Alaska. Mrs. Rasmussen of the health center of Fairbanks who has this on her heart as a Christian concern, tells of helping an Eskimo girl of 18 recover from D.T., another girl of 18 who already has a baby 1½ years old, and of many young people from families of 8 or 10 who live in two rooms with no other place to go. The need is evident. Dr. Armstrong has asked our people in Fairbanks to put on paper specifically how many people are concerned, how large and what kind of a building is needed, whether we should rent, buy or build, how much it would cost, how much local resource is available, where we would get funds to employ a couple to operate the Center etc., etc. We hope to have more information soon. It is believed the need will grow rather than diminish because more Eskimos are coming into the Fairbanks area.

Gifts for the Center will be used in the service of the Eskimo people. At present there are not funds in the regular budget for a building or personnel. Therefore, all that we are able to do must come from extra giving outside and beyond the budget for which no benevolence credit can be given. This is a slow process but will supply a need among people who are confused and being broken by our western civilization. Our response shows the concern of the Church to lead and guide into the Christian way of life.

JEJ:dj
~~1/13/56~~
4/17/56

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

Re. Fairbanks Children's Center

708 Fulton-Slaterville
Fairbanks, Alaska
April 17, 1956

Dr. Earl Jackman
Board of National Missions
Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.
156 5th Avenue
New York 10, New York

Dear Dr. Jackman:

Words just don't express how thankful and happy I am for the action taken at the Presbytery meeting. I was so very fearful that I hesitated contacting those who had been there, but finally I did with most happy results. Of course there will be much further to go but the first steps taken are after all the most important. Due to not seeing you again before you left, I was unable to tell you that I would be willing to start the "Home", without salary rather than take a chance on it not being started as soon as possible. I told the Alfsen's before they left so they would have something to offer. My reason for not mentioning it at the meeting at church is that I wanted to talk it over with Harry once more. After all, it depends much on him. He is willing but as I told you before, does not want to take a leading part in teaching or anything of that kind. However, he is an experienced maintenance man and was employed in our Public School system at home as an engineer for a number of years. He now works on the base in sheet metal and ventilating and is subject to be called occasionally to go to the outposts to do special work. However, he would be at home a good share of the time and could keep things in order. I'm sure it would not be too difficult to get volunteer help if something went wrong. I feel that the item of salary makes the budget look that much greater and as it is, the expenses for the first year will be higher than those later on.

You may have someone in mind already to come up here and if you have, well and good. Be sure there will be no feelings one way or another on our part. The thing we are all anxious for is that something be done. One other thing, If and when things are somewhat settled I would like to know as soon as possible in order to give a two month's notice. I should like to ask for a"leave" and rather believe it can be given. My supervisor is very much in favor that we get this thing going and also being a Presbyterian herself, that the Presbyterians do it. Of course it could again be refused but even so I would just resign and I'm sure would not find it too difficult to get my position back at some future time. I would in that case lose seniority. It makes little difference as far as I am concerned as the "Home" is the important thing right now. Mrs. Turner will help during the summer but will be going back to school for her final year, so that I could if necessary work until September. However, this is just in the event you have no one else you want to put in.

This past week the Detention Home has four girls -juveniles- One of them our Dorcas; another a little Indian girl that hates her home because the mother is rarely there and when she is has men friends. The girl is fourteen years and has to sleep on the floor with the rest of the little ones. Much of our Dorcas' trouble is that she is rebellious and in my heart I feel it may be too late to do much for her. We finally found a home for the girl who was in the hospital with her new baby. She is very delicate and is going to try to take care of herself and her baby as well as a little niece for the next few months. I doubt that she will be able to do so for very long and am hoping that we can offer her a place. The little girl can be boarded out but she should keep her

baby. She would be most helpful in answering the phone and in interpreting when Eskimo folk come in from the villages.

We are all continuing to pray much for this work. Surely it is not God's will that these be lost. Our Homemaker's club is now mostly married girls because the others feel shy about coming. We desparately need to help them. It would be even more wonderful to get them before they get to that stage.

We heard another bit of news that for a bit shocked us. You remember, perhaps that we spoke of a woman (unmarried) who was with one of the Pentecostal groups and had called Mr. Alfsen when she heard about our attempt to start a "Home". She informed him that she would like to work in it and manage it. Well, he gave her my number and I put her off after finding that she was unstable and had a few other traits that would make her definitely unsuitable for such work. Well, she went to the States and somehow or other got some non-denomination group who said they would back her financially, and she has purchased a lot outside of town and has had someone put in bids for quonset huts from the base and she is starting a place for girls who are pregnant. Her attitude is repulsive to say the least. Another Pentecostal woman informed me of it as she felt it was not good. At any rate, we are praying much about it and I rather expect to see it dropped.

Now I must close this long tale. I do hope it has not bored you too much. I am most anxious to hear what your decision will be. Remember that we are all praying and doing whatever we can to further the work here. I am going to visit the Federal Jail tonight as the matron and other workers as they are interested in knowing what if anything can be done to help the native girls. Hope it will bring results.

Sincerely,

Mable R. Rasmussen

Mable R. Rasmussen

First Presbyterian Church

Clinton, Iowa

MAY 7 1956

REV. BRUCE McCULLOUGH, D.D.
MINISTER

JEAN M. SHORTEN,
DIR. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

REV. ROBERT R. COFFEY,
ASSISTANT MINISTER

JAMES M. WINN,
MINISTER OF MUSIC

April 18, 1956

Dr. R. R. Armstrong
Juneau
Alaska

Dear Armie:

Thanks for sending me a copy of "P.A.Y.". It certainly is an excellent news letter and revived many memories of my happy visit in Alaska last Fall. It is interesting to realize how much deeper your prayers can be for a mission field that you have actually seen. My wife has always been interested in visiting our missionary projects as far as possible; and so was especially interested in my personal observations in Alaska. Scarcely a day goes by but I remember some pleasant incident of that glorious two weeks.

The people here received my messages with enthusiasm and have contributed to the fund for the Fairbanks Youth Hostel to the tune of approximately $375.00. As soon as I learn that the Hostel is a fact and who is receiving funds for it I will send the check.

Please remember me kindly to your wife and two lovely daughters. Here is hoping that our paths may cross again soon.

Yours sincerely,

Bruce McCullough

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Maple at E

EXETER, CALIFORNIA

APR 23 1956

Apr. 19, 1956

Dear Dr. Jackman,

Enclosed is $ 19.— I have received for Colombia today. Please apply it to the Erskine Carter Fund.

Sincerely,

Rev. Augustus H. Harris

April 23, 1956

worksheet

19.-

Dr. August E. Harris

First Presbyterian Church
Maple at E
Exeter, Calif.

Alaska Misc'l SOB-IFC CH/B - Fairbanks Eskimo Youth Center

receipt directly to donor

K

Dept. of Work in Alaska
per

April 25, 1956

Dr. Ross M. Haverfield
206 E. Second Avenue
Du Bois, Pennsylvania

Dear Ross:

Thank you for your letter of April 14th inquiring about the progress of the fund for the Eskimo Center in Fairbanks. On my recent trip I had a conference with the Committee in Fairbanks only to discover that more and more Eskimo people are moving into the area for continuous employment. The need is increasing and we have asked the people to document it. We have found a large home which could be used for a center for Eskimo girls. A couple could have rooms to themselves on the first floor and watch over a fellowship center in the living room. There are five good size bedrooms on the second floor which could be used as dormitory space. The only trouble is the price is $35,000 which we do not have. The owner would be willing to give us until the end of 1957 to pay for it but we have only one-tenth of the amount needed on hand. We would be happy to have any honoraria which you may receive sent to us for that purpose.

Elmer Parker is in the states now on his way to the General Assembly during furlough period. His Post Office address is the home of his brother at 1130 S. Adams Street, Denver 10, Colorado. He will be coming East prior to the General Assembly and then will return to Alaska for service in Petersburg as of June 17th for the rest of the summer. Elmer is a great soul and would bring a blessing to your congregation if you can induce him to stop off with you enroute to Philadelphia.

I visited Hydaburg on the 21st of March and talked with the Stussis and their Officers. Barbara had just been over to the clinic in Klawock to have her appendi~~citis~~ removed. She needs an operation on her eye but will leave that until after the baby arrives sometime during August. From all I could pick up they are doing a good work and everyone appreciated your wonderful visit last October.

Best regards to you.

Cordially yours,

JEJ:dj

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

Eskimo Youth Center Fdn.

May 2, 1956

The Rev. August Harris
First Presbyterian Church
Maple at E
Exeter, California

Dear August:

Many thanks for your gift of $19.00 which is being applied to the fund for the Eskimo Youth Center in Fairbanks. We appreciate the fact that you are willing to forward the honoraria which you received from your talks on Alaska for this purpose.

I sat down with the Committee again in Fairbanks last month and we went to look at a property for this purpose. There are some items of negotiation which will have to be taken up about it but the main obstacle is where to find the money. We have received approximately $4,000 in gifts recently from those who were on the Preaching Mission and this could be used as a down payment as soon as we see our way clear to get the rest of the money. A suitable house is available which can be adapted for this particular purpose. The Committee up there has determined that the need for this is more pressing than ever and will increase as more Eskimos come into the Fairbanks area.

Best wishes to you and blessings upon you in your ministry.

Cordially yours,

JEJ:dj

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

Eskimo center for

May 10, 1956

VIA AIRMAIL
The Rev. Victor Alfsen
First Presbyterian Church
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Vic:

We have had several discussions here about an appropriation of funds for the Eskimo Center in Fairbanks. Practically all of the funds available for this year are being appropriated without any possibility of getting a sizeable amount for the Center. We have been able to get some assurance on funds for Hillcrest which was the number one priority passed by the Presbytery. Also we got some assurance for Ketchikan which was the number one priority for Alaska Presbytery. Our only hope now from Board sources is something in 1957.

Meanwhile, the reaction which I get turns the project right back to Fairbanks, with the suggestion that the Presbyterian minister there try to get a local committee of representatives from various welfare and service organizations who will come together and take the responsibility locally for this problem. The supposition is that if a local committee would get stirred up about it there are enough resources in Fairbanks to do the job for local betterment. The basic weakness of this is that it would not be a Christian program related to the church and my judgment is that we do not change people in Alaska by social service. The application of basic social methods is important but a message and emphasis on redemption through Christ is essential for the success of the program.

Is it possible for us to combine these two ideas? Can we get a committee from the community up there to spark the thing and take some responsibility for the provision of a building with our church or the cooperating churches taking the responsibility for personnel? The couple who operate the place certainly ought to have a very clear Christian mission motive but it would be helpful for them to have some training in social work as well.

Give this some thought and perhaps discuss it with others to see what can be done about it.

Best regards to all of you.

Cordially yours,

JEJ:dj
cc: Dr. R. Rolland Armstrong

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

Alfsen file
re Eskimo Center

May 10, 1956

VIA AIRMAIL
The Rev. Victor Alfsen
First Presbyterian Church
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Vic:

We have had several discussions here about an appropriation of funds for the Eskimo Center in Fairbanks. Practically all of the funds available for this year are being appropriated without any possibility of getting a sizeable amount for the Center. We have been able to get some assurance on funds for Hillcrest which was the number one priority passed by the Presbytery. Also we got some assurance for Ketchikan which was the number one priority for Alaska Presbytery. Our only hope now from Board sources is something in 1957.

Meanwhile, the reaction which I get turns the project right back to Fairbanks, with the suggestion that the Presbyterian minister there try to get a local committee of representatives from various welfare and service organizations who will come together and take the responsibility locally for this problem. The supposition is that if a local committee would get stirred up about it there are enough resources in Fairbanks to do the job for local betterment. The basic weakness of this is that it would not be a Christian program related to the church and my judgment is that we do not change people in Alaska by social service. The application of basic social methods is important but a message and emphasis on redemption through Christ is essential for the success of the program.

Is it possible for us to combine these two ideas? Can we get a committee from the community up there to spark the thing and take some responsibility for the provision of a building with our church or the cooperating churches taking the responsibility for personnel? The couple who operate the place certainly ought to have a very clear Christian mission motive but it would be helpful for them to have some training in social work as well.

Give this some thought and perhaps discuss it with others to see what can be done about it.

Best regards to all of you.

Cordially yours,

JEJ:dj
cc: Dr. R. Rolland Armstrong

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

W.
Eskimo Youth Center

May 11, 1956

Dr. Bruce McCullough
First Presbyterian Church
Clinton, Iowa

Dear Bruce:

Armie has sent me your letter about the contribution of your people for the Eskimo Youth Center in Fairbanks. We have in our Treasury here $3,000 and Vic Alfsen in Fairbanks, has $1,000. The fund is growing slowly while we are trying to fulfill negotiations concerning it.

I had a meeting with the Committee up there in March, for further negotiations and developments. It is the judgment of all of those concerned in the northern part of Alaska that this problem will increase as time goes on. Construction along the Arctic Coast will cease this fall and there will be much unemployment among the Eskimo people. Many of them will continue to come down to Fairbanks to seek further employment. We asked the Committee in Fairbanks to investigate the possibility of securing the Greimann House for this purpose. The first floor of it is suitable for private quarters for a couple, plus a fellowship room for youth; the second floor has five bedrooms with bath which can be used for dormitory accommodations and there is a full basement which could be used for vocational activities. The price is $35,000. There is a small cottage on the property which can be rented for $125 a month to help carry the entire obligation. The only question is we do not have the money. I have made some requests here but get a reaction that the community ought to recognize this as a local problem, appoint a committee representative of community and service agencies and do something toward it. We have asked for an investigation up there on this basis. It may be possible that it will turn out to be a combination arrangement. Meanwhile, we cannot move until we have more money. We are requesting funds in the budget for 1957 to provide a worker and hope that there may be some progress. If we had resources we could move right in and do something about it but lacking that we are limited.

When you are ready send your funds here to be applied to the fund which we are holding and developing. We hope you will reach your goal of $500.

Kindest personal regards to you. Whenever I see your name or think about you I remember our fine fellowship together in Anchorage.

Cordially yours,

JEJ:dj

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

COPY COPY COPY

July 9, 1956

The Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
City Hall
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Sirs:

At a regular meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission held June 27, 1956, the Secretary was instructed to inform the Honorable Mayor and City Council of the following items:

I. The reasons for denying the application for a Hospitality House by the National Presbyterian Mission in the Paul Greimann home at 1102 Eighth Avenue were:

A. The Commission believed that Article II-B, Section 3820, Sub-heading 5 of Ordinance 437 was more applicable than Sub-heading 9 of the same section. (Sub-heading 5 states: "The following uses are permitted in the General Residential Area: The renting of rooms for lodging purposes only for the accomodation of not to exceed four (4) persons in a single family dwelling." Sub-heading 9 states that "schools and churches" are allowable in a General Residential area if approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council.)

B. The signature of Edward Rusing did not appear on the petition. Mr. Rusing's residence is on the East side of Bonnifield Street, opposite the Greimann home. Also, Mr. Byrne, whose signature appears on the petition, after hearing the discussion preferred that a public hearing be held. The Commission concurred. Further, there was no explanation of "Hospitality Center."

II. A motion passed unanimously to recommend to the City Council the rezoning of Block 23 of the Rickert Subdivision from Residential to Multiple Residential. It is the opinion of the Commission that Block 23 of the Rickert Subdivision is not a desirable area for single-family construction.

III. A petition from residents of Block 44 requesting the rezoning of Lots 1 and 2, Block 44, be rezoned from Residential to Light Industrial. The Commission voted that a recommendation be made to the City Council that Lots 1 and 2, Block 44, be rezoned from Residential to Light Industrial to conform to the rest of the block.

Respectfully submitted,

ALLAN J. HERSEY
Acting Secretary
Planning and Zoning Commission

cc: City Manager
City Clerk

JUL 3 0 1956

708 Fulton-Slaterville
Fairbanks, Alaska
July 11, 1956

Dear Mr. Alfsen:

I went to the City Council meeting Monday night but it was postponed again to the following Monday because of lack of a quorum. Well, Mr. Slankard did get a report from the Planning & Zoning Commission. Looks like we're licked as far as this goes. Mr. Rusing evidently is most serious in not wanting us in there. Well, it was not to be so easy.

I have talked with some who are in sympathy with our work and they feel that although they can see no disadvantage to anyone's property value that inasmuch as Rusing, who has a great deal of influence is not for it, we are most apt to lose out. Personally, I can see how people may feel. The suggestion that a public hearing be held holds very little hope as far as I can see. After all, one does not just bite the hand that holds the cash and I am sure that not all property owners in that neighborhood are in a position to ignore the bank. Then there are those who are fence sitters and will just not appear. There is also the feeling that the Natives are not worth the trouble. I was told most properly by our friend "Sylvia", that I should just walk down 2nd Ave. "about now" and see for myself what the Natives were like. I told her I had spent enough time doing just that and that I felt it was time we did something to off set the damage done by those supplying the liquor and nothing else for the Natives. Wow, what toe will I step on next? Well, she kept quiet after that but another of her henchmen (women) informed me it was the job of the A NS and again I informed her that it was the job of the churches to act on any moral problem. She also kept quiet. Well, they are both good Episcopalians and Bishop Gordon stopped in and said he would come back the next meeting too if his word would carry any weight. Well, we knew we would have this sort of thing and somehow I think I have begun to grow callouses where my feelings are.

When you have read this if you feel it is better not to have a public hearing I'd appreciate it a lot if you could let me know. I was advised to put in writing what we intend to use the house for before the next Council meeting -that will take some thinking- but I shall do my best. It won't mean a thing but at least then we are complying with their desires. I know you folks will be praying regarding this. It is a shame to bother you with it just now but I felt you would want to know what was being done. I do hope something will be settled this week so we can look further if necessary. At least interest will be stirred a bit and in fact has been so our work has not really been wasted. Perhaps if they turn us down on this they will feel guilty enough to give us a hand in other ways. Hope you folks will have a good vacation and a rest too.

Sincerely, Mable Rasmussen

THE PRESBYTERY OF LOS ANGELES
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

315 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES 13, CALIFORNIA

ROOM 221
MICHIGAN 9884

July 25, 1956

Rev. J. Earl Jackman, D.D.
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman:

Recently I was teaching a course on the Mission of the Church at one of the commission conferences of the high school youth of the Los Angeles Presbytery. In this conference I told them briefly of our work in Alaska as I saw it. From the discussion they wanted to know if there was anything that they might possibly do. From this discussion came the thought of the hostel for Eskimos in Fairbanks, Alaska, as we had formerly spoken of it. They were very enthusiastic about the idea and presented it to presbytery of the commission conference which, in essence, is the conference council. The council was very enthusiastic about it and asked that I get in touch with you.

The Youth Presbytery of Los Angeles, with possibly the cooperation of the adjoining Youth Presbyteries of Riverside and Santa Barbara, might be interested in giving this idea of a youth hostel some very serious consideration as a project. I think that it is a financial possibility yet I know that there are many questions which need to be answered. For example, is this a realistic need? If so, just exactly what are we talking about dollar-wise, etcetera? If the young people could conceivably raise enough money for the purchase of such a place, what would be the provision for its continued program operation? Would this be something which they too must give consideration to before launching into the initial project? What progress has been made, if any, on this since the last information which I received? How would the Board of National Missions look upon the youth taking on such a project program as this?

I see the great significance of this program if the youth of California would get behind it. I would certainly tie them closer to the mission of the church in Alaska which, of course, is a relevant mission for the people on the West coast. Nevertheless, I don't want to set anything in motion, in a promotional way, unless I am certain that it is in good order and has the blessing of the officials concerned. Consequently, I will await hearing from you before pushing this any further. I might also add that Miss Thelma Glenn, who was in Alaska for some time and is now a Director of Christian Education in this area, was in attendance at the conference and is very enthusiastic about the idea. At this point, however, we will do nothing until we hear from you.

Are you planning to be at Swannoa, North Carolina, at the National Staff in September? I will be attending and perhaps we could sit down, if you are in attendance, and review this whole situation. If not, then we could carry it out by correspondence until such time as you felt it was necessary for us to actually sit down with some concrete plans.

Waiting to hear your reply, I am

Cordially yours,

Chester L. Tolson
Director of Missions

CLT:mlb

JUL 3 0 1956

First Presbyterian Church

Corner Cushman and Seventh
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

P.O. BOX 2157

VICTOR I. ALFSEN
Pastor

July 26; 1956

Dear Dr. Jackman,

order $795-

We are ready for your office to place the following order for Communion Ware with the Westminster Bookstore. We appreciate your help in this and hope that you can get us as large a discount as possible.

All items in Anodized Aluminum
- ✓ 8 Non-collecting trays with Style 3D glasses @ $13.75
- ✓ 2 Covers @ $7.00
- ✓ 2 Bases @ $6.00
- ✓ 8 Bread Plates @ $4.75

via parcel-post insured mail

Whatever shipping arrangements you suggest will be all right with us. Worldwide Communion Sunday will be the first opportunity for us to dedicate and use this new set.

Eskimo center. X

I am enclosing the most recent development in regard to the Hospitality Center. Walkup and Bingle and some of the others thought it best to forego the public hearing and instead look around for something to rent perhaps. However, the public hearing has been advertised in the papers and we will have to appear of course. But I feel this is a good opportunity to explain exactly what we have in mind whether we end up with the Greimann property or not.

X

The Munros and the Diehls both happen to be in town today. All look in the pink of condition. Our weather is simply gorgeous with the sun baking down and the kids running barefoot around the place. Bachtell is doing a real piece of work for us this summer. You certainly chose well for us. I am looking forward to making out the final report on him. Better be looking around for superlatives.

student

In Christian Fellowship,

Vic

JUL 3 1 1956

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

TO Dr. Jackman
FROM Miss Gladfelter
RE:

DATE July 27, 1956

While I was in Haines in May, Dr. Armstrong, Mr. Frank, Miss Miller, and I had an opportunity to discuss a number of matters of general interest with respect to the work in Alaska, among them, the proposed hostel for Fairbanks.

During the course of our discussion, it was suggested that it might be helpful to have a survey of the need and the type of program which should be set up to meet that need made by a trained social worker, i.e., Miss Miller. As you know, we would be glad to have Miss Miller used as widely as possible in the total program in Alaska since we do not think of her service on a departmental basis. If, therefore, you would be interested in having Miss Miller give the proposed service, we shall be glad to have you let us know what date or dates would be most convenient so that we could clear with her and Mr. Frank.

KEG

Katharine E. Gladfelter

KEG:tc
cc: Dr. Armstrong
Mr. Frank
Miss Miller

re. Alfsen file.

July 31, 1956

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Victor I. Alfsen
Box 2157
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Vic:

Your telephone call at 3:30 A.M. did not get me out of bed because we have an extension beside the bed. It was a surprise but offers a possibility. I have one question about the combination of "truant officer" for the Eskimos and our missionary service to the Eskimos in the same person. One may be disciplinary but could interfere with the winsomeness of the other.

re Charles Heier Cor.

However, here are the papers on Charles R. Heier who is serving the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church in Blossburg, Penna. Heier came to me when he finished the C. & M.A. training school. At that time he could not accept the teaching of our church on infant baptism. he has since faced emergency requests for infant baptism and has performed it. He says he can do it with good conscience now. We have sent a copy of the Constitution which he has been studying and feels he can come into our work with full loyalty. He is not familiar with the operation of Presbytery and therefore we feel he could not be placed on an isolated field. If he were to come to Fairbanks for Eskimo work, he could work under your guidance for beliefs, polity, and program of our Church which would give him background training for service elsewhere in Alaska. He has definitely stated he desires service in Alaska.

One problem would be the space needed for housing four children. Another would be their relationship to the Eskimo program if and when we get a center for it. I do not know his wife yet, but must have a visit with her too. Here are the papers! Talk with Dr. Ryan about considering Heier and if you desire talk to the other men in our work in the Fairbanks area for their reaction about receiving Heier as an ordained man in Yukon Presbytery and a part of our program. Be honest about it. If the answer is "no", don't hesitate; if the answer is "yes", he is a possibility. Let me know as soon as you can.

We find that the Seminar account is in the black and we are enclosing a check to be presented to your women for the dinner in the church the night of July 3rd. We greatly appreciate everything which you did in connection with our visit and the services of your women to feed the group and provide the atmosphere for another happy experience.

Frequently, we are asked if a competent survey has been made of the need for the Eskimo Center. Miss Gladfelter raised this question with Army in May in Haines. She is now offering the services of Miss Isabel Miller to come up to Fairbanks as a trained social worker to get this basic information which we do not yet seem to have in detail of everything which will be involved. This does not necessarily mean that the Hostel would be under Ed. & Med. but would give us the benefit of a trained Christian outlook on the need and what we should do in detail about it. What is your reaction?

Regards to all the family and your people.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

CC: The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth

Enc.: Charles R. Meier's Personal Information papers,
Application for Missionary Service papers
with 9 pages of references.

(Please return these to Dr. Jackman's office as soon as you are finished with them. Thank you.

Ck. #39 re: Seminar dinner - $50.-

August 2, 1956

The Rev. Chester L. Tolson
315 South Broadway
Los Angeles 13, Calif.

Dear Chet:

Thank you for your letter of July 25th about the proposal of the youth of Southern California taking the Eskimo center in Fairbanks as a project. This would be a fine thing for them to do and certainly has great possibilities for the benefit of the youth in California and the Eskimo youths of Alaska. It is recognized in Fairbanks that there is a continuing need for such a center with a larger possibility of service because more Eskimos are leaving the Arctic Coast and coming into the Fairbanks area to seek employment.

We have been trying to find a house where this project could be carried on, and the one which we have picked out tentatively is in a neighborhood where we must get permission of all of the neighbors to have it. This request has dragged out and is now requiring a public hearing before the City Council. We do not know yet what is going to happen but it is doubtful that we can get it.

There will be a basic need of a building which will cost between $35,000 and $50,000, a couple to live in the center which will require a salary of $4,000 to $5,000 depending upon our agreement about housing and food in the center and operating expense which may come up to about $3,000 or $4,000 a year. By the time National Staff meets, we might have some more information about this and I can talk with you there.

We do appreciate your interest in this, and of the young people of Southern California doing something about it.

Best wishes,

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

JEJ:km

Miss Gladfelter
Dr. Jackman

August 3, 1956

Fairbanks, Eskimo Youth Center

Thank you for your offer of the services of Miss Isabel Miller to make a survey in the Fairbanks area concerning the need for the proposed Eskimo center. We have asked Mr. Alfsen and Mrs. Rasmussen who are vitally interested in this project to get certain basic information. They have gathered some information onthe human side but we still wonder whether we have enough basic facts to go ahead with the project. Meanwhile they are going through the red tape of trying to get clearance on a certain property within two blocks of the Church as a possible center.

I have sent your suggestion to Mr. Alfsen to see what the committee up there feel about it. We hope to have a reply in the near future.

J. Earl Jackman

AUG 1 0 1955

Fairbanks, Alaska
August 7, 1955

Dr. Earl Jackman
Board of National Missions
Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.
156 5th Ave.,
New York, 10, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman:

It is just a few months since you were here in Fairbanks and we talked of the needs of our Eskimo folk, in particular, the needs of the girls and young women and of the possibility of a home being established here. Perhaps I am being impatiant, but it is difficult to be otherwise when faced daily with needs that cannot be met. It is not enough to teach and preach in the church. They need so much more than that and yet, it would not be difficult to reach them if they had a place to go where they would not be feeling inferior to white people. I have tried a number of times this summer to mix my eskimo girls, those I felt to be somewhere near ready, in our other church young people's doings, but find it just does not work out. They need a place of their own in addition to our regular church to meet and learn how to mix. I am sure I don't need to say these things to you as you are fully aware of their needs. However, I am wondering if I can add anything to what I told you when we talked of these things that may be helpful.

I am continuing with the girl's work. They are holding together better than I thought they would. I felt they would not want to keep on as often during the summer but, they insist they do, and for the most part have been very faithful. Our group is not as large, of course, but is continually changing. I have seen a deeper spiritual growth in a few of them and I know it will interest you to know that they too are praying that a home will be opened here for the eskimo people.

I told you of several girls who could and should have been helped and yet we could do very little for them. Two of them have been in and out of the detention home. One of them lives on the outskirts of town and living very loosely. I saw the other one a few days ago, just getting over D. T's. Yes, Dr. Jackman she has just turned 18. She was one who wanted help some months ago. Do you wonder I am concerned? I have known several very similar.

Even the older eskimo women have told me they are concerned because their young folks have no place to go and are going to the bars. We do have an ordinance now that prohibits anyone who is a minor from entering, but that is a small hindrance. There are plenty of places on the outskirts that are not as law abiding. It is a miserable sight to go down the street and see many of the girls who used to come to church either walking up and down the streets with G. I's sometimes intoxicated and at others to see them looking for someone to take them out. It is worse with the girls who come to town thinking they may get work and then being picked up very quickly either by their "friends" or by unscrupulous men. Once they get started, it is practically impossible to stop them. They are not bad girls but are the victims of circumstance and their ignorance. When I wrote to Mr. Perry last November, I told him I knew of at least thrity girls that had come into town and been lost. I have not kept track of the number since, but am sure there are many more.

I am also much concerned about the younger girls who are already following in the footsteps of their older sister. Last evening one of my girls called me to tell me she had seen the mother of one of our younger girls reeling down the street with another young woman who was equally intoxicated. This particular young girl has been seen in the company of a most degraded young white woman. There is still hope for her but everything is against our getting her in to church again.

We have a number of girls who have had babies or are about to have them. Right now they are willing to learn how to care for them and if we had the facilities we could teach them the value of a child and how to care for him. There are many who come through town and need care for a few days, coming from or going to the hospitals or San. So often they must be put into crowded quarters. It is especially pitiful to see natives come in town unable to speak a word of english. Sometimes they are ill or come to town for other reasons. The evil ones surely have a field day when they do come in that way. The Welfare and the ANS are on the job and are helpful but many of these cases never come to their attention. At any rate, it is a responsibility that belongs to the Christian.

I feel this letter is so inadequate, I wish I could talk with you and your Board in person, but as this is the best I can do I must let it go at that.

The church is being torn down now in preparation for the new building. There is much enthusiasm and it is a good thing. Somehow working and building together helps to unite people. I hope the time will come very quickly when our eskimo people can work together again and go out after their own to bring them in. I just dare not give up hope for this work. I shall continue doing what little I can and pray that God will give the increase. I shall also be praying much as you take this up with the Board. Will you greet Mr. Perry for me?

Sincerely,

Mable R. Rasmussen

Mable R. Rasmussen
708 Fulton-Slaterville
Fairbanks, Alaska

Eskimo Youth Center

August 24, 1956

Miss Lillias A. Joy
902 Goodrich Avenue
St. Paul 5, Minnesota

Dear Miss Joy:

Many, many thanks for your generous gift for our Eskimo work in Fairbanks. We are adding this to the fund which we had been gathering with the hope that we may do something substantial toward having a real Christian center for the Eskimo people there. The local committee has been trying to clear a location and property in which this can be done but the way is not open yet. We continue to work toward it and your gift will be a great help to us in it.

You will be interested to know that the Rev. Elmer Parker whom we met at Petersburg, and who had served at Fairbanks last winter, has gone back there to help the Eskimo children be more regular in school and to try to draw the families into our church program.

Thank you also for your kind words about the arrangements for the Seminar. We have a great work there and it is a joy to interpret it to our Presbyterian people who have such a great interest and understanding as you have. Your gift will be a help in the further developments of service to meet the need that lies before us. My wife joins me in sending you our best wishes and personal greetings.

Sincerely yours,

JEJ:dj

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

AUG 27 1956

First Presbyterian Church

Corner Cushman and Seventh
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

P.O. BOX 2157

VICTOR I. ALFSEN
Pastor

August 25, 1956

Dear Dr. Jackman,

Elmer is here and ready to tear into the two jobs here. He will be living at the church until we can find something suitable. Does he have a rental allowance? Also the school job will necessitate a car of some kind. He is looking around. It certainly is good to have him back with us. The Eskimo folks were thrilled to see him too.

The matter of the Greimann house was finally settled in our favor so there is a possibility for sure now. I am enclosing the newspaper account of the council meeting altho Mrs. Rasmussen says it is not too accurate as far as direct quotes are concerned. We will be anxiously awaiting word now from you as yo what we can expect next.

Ginny is in St. Joesph's hospital recuperating from acute appendicitis. She was operated on yesterday and is sitting up today. She is quite a gal; I didn't realize how much she does around this place until she isn't here. She should be drawing 75% of the slalary. I can see that now.

We shall be sorry to loose Don Bachtell tomorrow. He has been a real help this summer and has made himself a permanent place in our hearts.

In Christian Fellowship,

Vic

P.S. Monte Brown wrote he had passed our correspondence regarding a possible supplementary fund drive next summer over to some person working out of New York. Would you please follow that up for us. We have not heard a word. Our Building Fund pldeges will be finished next June 30 and we feel we will have to have a small drive of some kind.

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1956

AUG 27 1956

Alaska Prom

Eskimo Youth Center Site Is Approved

Council Approves Use of Greimann House by Church

A feuding City Council resolved its differences last night and unanimously gave permission to the Presbyterian Mission Board to use the Paul Greimann house at the 8th avenue and Bonnifield street as a hospitality house for Eskimo youth.

The harmony unexpectedly followed five minutes of uninterrupted noise and bickering.

At its height, Councilman Dick Greuel commanded Councilman Ben Potter, "Don't be a fool!" after Potter had accused him of favoring juvenile delinquency in Fairbanks.

Greuel had moved facetiously that "we do nothing" about the proposal after the Council learned that its action was not necessary.

No Zoning Change

City Attorney Eugene Miller said the church group did not need Council permission, since no zoning change had been requested.

However, the Council unanimously voted its approval of the project, anyway.

Mrs. Harry Rasmussen, a volunteer worker in the church among Eskimo youngsters, explained the house's proposed use as a hospitality center.

"Young girls," she said, "come into town from the villages. They're picked up by GI's and friends. We'd like to give them a place to stay while they learn about the city. They could learn housework and go into decent homes. They won't learn it on the wrong side of the fence."

Reasonable Rate

She said Greimann had made the house available "at a reasonable rate" for use in this project.

Potter commented:

"If people work in the service of the Lord, they're a good influence."

However, Ed Rusing, who lives across the street on 8th, said he had bought property in that area originally because it was one of the areas left in Fairbanks where residences were predominant and protected.

Investors in Fairbanks, he said must be assured that waivers will not be granted continually.

Commends Project

He commended the project itself as "worthwhile," but said it could be accomplished elsewhere where zoning permitted it.

Mayor Douglas Preston pointed out what he said were "grave dangers" to newcomers from the villages. He said such a house would offer protection to them, and keep them from becoming delinquents.

"Why, girls can't go downtown now," he said. "Cars stop to pick them up all the time. It's a terrible problem."

At that point, the feud developed between the partisans supporting no vote at all—since Miller had said none was required—and those who thought some sort of commitment was in order.

Potter and Greuel departed from the meeting as friends—but each was somewhat hoarse after the shouting had faded into an unanimous vote of approval.

Alfsen for new building fund

Mr. J. A. Reed - Room 801
Dr. J. Earl Jackman September 5, 1956

A letter has come from the Rev. Victor I. Alfsen, pastor of our First Church of Fairbanks, Alaska, that their Buildin Fund pledges expire next June 30th and they will need to have another campaign. He had written to Monte Brown about this and Monte was supposed to have referred it to the office here. Vic has had no word on it and he wants to know what our staff can do for them next spring. May we ask you to send him the basic information about arrangements and charges for a campaign by one of the members of our staff. We would suggest that you do this yourself because we want to be sure we have a good man who will get results in Alaska.

JEJ:dj

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

Vic Alfsen Jr.
re Eskimo Youth Center

September 5, 1956

VIA AIRMAIL
The Rev. Victor I. Alfsen
Box 2157
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Vic:

Thank you for your letter of August 25th with its information about Elmer and the Greimann house. We are glad to know that it has been cleared and is available for purchase or use for the Eskimo Center. Now that we have something definite before us I shall go the the Priority Projects Committee and see what can be done about a grant of funds for its purchase. You will be interested to know that one of the good ladies on our Seminar this summer has sent us a check for $1,000 toward it. There maybe other gifts coming in later and we trust there will be.

Sorry to hear that Ginny is in the hospital for acute appendicitis. She is too fine a person to carry around an infection and it is better to get rid of it so she can resume her normal genial personality. Please give her our regards and best wishes for a speedy recovery.

We have heard from Bob Lutz that his Session has approved his release from his church and has agreed to underwrite his basic round-trip transportation to Alaska for the Preaching Mission in your church. We have acknowledged this and the way is open now for you to write to him directly for arrangements up there. Don Lester will be sending him basic information for his own preparation for the Mission.

We are interested in your proposal for another Building Fund Campaign. It will be much cheaper if we can get one of the members of our own staff to go up for it. You may or may not know that Frank Walkup had the Wells Organization for their Every Member Canvass. Their results showed $70,000 in pledges but they had to pay Wells $5,000 for it. The charges for campaigns from our Building Aid Department are based upon the size of the membership of the church and the amount of money involved in the campaign. A charge is made toward the salary of the leader and expenses. We will contact the Building Aid Department and see what information we can get for you.

I am not sure that we have sent you the information that Adelinda Womkon from Gambell, who graduated from SJJC and Emporia College in Kansas, has been teaching

school in Kotzebue. During the past summer she married Ed Badten, who is a pilot for Wiens. Ed was on duty in Kotzebue and took care of ground transportation for our Seminar when we visited there in July. He was to be transferred to Fairbanks and Adelinda should be in your program. Elmer Parker could follow up on this very well.

Regards to all the family.

Cordially yours,

JEJ:dj
cc: The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

Miss Isabel Miller September 10, 1956

Katharine E. Gladfelter

Proposed Hostel for Fairbanks

You received a copy of my memo of July 27 to Dr. Jackman offering your services in connection with the proposed hostel for Fairbanks, so I am now writing to quote the reply from Dr. Jackman which was received in August during my absence from the office:

> "Thank you for your offer of the services of Miss Isabel Miller to make a survey in the Fairbanks area concerning the need for the proposed Eskimo center. We have asked Mr. Alfsen and Mrs. Rasmussen who are vitally interested in this project to get certain basic information. They have gathered some information on the human side but we still wonder whether we have enough basic facts to go ahead with the project. Meanwhile, they are going through the red tape of trying to get clearance on a certain property within two blocks of the Church as a possible center.
>
> "I have sent your suggestion to Mr. Alfsen to see what the committee up there feel about it. We hope to have a reply in the near future."

The hostel project was up again for discussion at the meeting of the Cabinet of Missionary Operation last Thursday, and at that time a new desire was expressed for more information and for data to be secured by a person trained in social work. A small committee, consisting of Dr. Jackman, Dr. Baldwin and myself, was set up and it was suggested that Mr. John Park Lee, representing the committee, would try to secure the desired data.

Dr. Jackman is the Chairman of the committee, and I am not sure how he will proceed, so this memo is just to give you some background in case you hear directly from Dr. Jackman and/or Mr. Lee. Nothing was said about the expenses for a possible trip to Fairbanks, but if you could combine a trip with one which you had projected for the fall, we would, of course, be glad to have you do so as this would save expense for the Board.

KEG:md
cc: Dr. Armstrong
Mr. Frank
Dr. Jackman

September 17, 1956

VIA AIRMAIL
The Rev. Victor I. Alfsen
Box 2157
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Vic:

We have been pushing again on the matter of the Eskimo Center. We do not have anything definite yet but at least have made one step in advance. After a discussion of it before the Cabinet of Missionary Operation it was decided that a committee should be appointed who would follow up with the field and with the Board. This appointment of the committee grew out of a question whether it should be within the administration of the City and Industry which has our community centers, Education and Medical Work or the Department of Work in Alaska. The Committee consists of Miss Katherine Gladfelter, Dr. Harold Baldwin and myself as chairman. The following day we called a meeting of the committee and Mr. John Park Lee represented Dr. Baldwin in the meeting. Mr. Lee is on the staff of our Board of Pensions half time with relation to the operation of the homes which the Pension Board has for retired ministers. After considerable discussion it was decided that there was not sufficient information yet which could determine in what direction the Center ought to go. We reviewed all of the information which we had including the letters from Mrs. Rasmussen about the number of people and some of the problems involved and the proposed budget which Army had drawn up with the Committee before he left Fairbanks. The Committee here want the following bits of information in rather definite detail.

1. Approximately how many people are to be served at the Center? A statement on this should include some idea of the number of people of various ages--whether there would be any children--whether it would be all young people or whether there would be something for older people as well.

2. What is the purpose or function of this Center? Is it to be rehabilitation of those who are delinquent or is it to be a Christian social center for business girls for the prevention of delinquency and a service for them to get them established in the civilization which they find in Fairbanks? In other words, is the purpose to help those who are in trouble or is it to perform Christian service for those who have not been in trouble as a Y.W.C.A. might do? (3. The kind of personnel needed for this center will depend upon the answer to number 2. In

other words, if this is to be a Christian social center with dormitory space it is possible to have a middle aged couple who are Christian and sympathetic with young people as the leaders of the center. On the other hand, if this is for the

purpose of rehabilitating people who have been in trouble, the successful prosecution of the program will need those who have been trained and who are specialists in this field. This might envision the necessity of having a couple in charge of the house and to have a trained case worker on the staff to deal with girls individually.

4. Following the answers to the first three questions it may be possible then to build a realistic basic budget to provide for what is needed., including the necessary staff to carry out the program. This should include something for the maintenance of the property, salaries for the staff, all items of cost and all sources of revenue for it.

5. Some definite statement ought to be made concerning the organization and composition of a local board of directors or committee which would be responsible locally for the operation of the center. If we are to own the property and continue a controlling interest in its program, the majority of those on this Board ought to be from the local church, the Presbytery and the Board of National Missions.

6. In our discussion of the program of the Center, we have talked about some vocational training for jobs or other activities in the area. We should list the jobs which are open and the possibilities toward which a program of training should be directed, such as; housework, baby sitting, nurses aide, waittresses, etc.

It was the judgment of the members of our committee here that a visit from Miss Isabel Miller could help a great deal in accomplishing a clear line of thinking and the gathering of additional necessary information to bring this into definite form. Therefore, the committee recommend that Miss Miller come up to Fairbanks in connection with some other work she might need to do in the interior and work with your committee in securing the answers to all of these questions. The more we inquire into this the more we realize that this is a field for someone who has had some training and experience in it before we get into a program which we are not equipped to handle. The Board of National Missions meets on the 27th and 28th of this month and we have decided to present this matter again to the Advisory Committee on the 26th. We may not have definite information to present to them at that time but we want to keep it alive so that when we have a specific program and obligation to present the subject will not be cold in the minds of the Board who have to act upon it. If any of this material needed can be gotten to me before the 26th, it will be helpful but we ought to take sufficient time to do the job in a basic manner and have the material ready for action.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

JEJ:dj
cc: Miss Gladfelter
Dr. Baldwin
The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth
Miss Isabel Miller

Alfsen re Eskimo center

September 17, 1956

VIA AIRMAIL
The Rev. Victor I. Alfsen
Box 2157
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Vic:

We have been pushing again on the matter of the Eskimo Center. We do not have anything definite yet but at least have made one step in advance. After a discussion of it before the Cabinet of Missionary Operation it was decided that a committee should be appointed who would follow up with the field and with the Board. This appointment of the committee grew out of a question whether it should be within the administration of the City and Industry which has our community centers, Education and Medical Work or the Department of Work in Alaska. The Committee consists of Miss Katherine Cladfelter, Dr. Harold Baldwin and myself as chairman. The following day we called a meeting of the committee and Mr. John Park Lee represented Dr. Baldwin in the meeting. Mr. Lee is on the staff of our Board of Pensions half time with relation to the operation of the homes which the Pension Board has for retired ministers. After considerable discussion it was decided that there was not sufficient information yet which could determine in what direction the Center ought to go. We reviewed all of the information which we had including the letters from Mrs. Rasmussen about the number of people and some of the problems involved and the proposed budget which Army had drawn up with the Committee before he left Fairbanks. The Committee here want the following bits of information in rather definite detail.

1. Approximately how many people are to be served at the Center? A statement on this should include some idea of the number of people of various ages--whether there would be any children--whether it would be all young people or whether there would be something for older people as well.

2. What is the purpose or function of this Center? Is it to be rehabilitation of those who are delinquent or is it to be a Christian social center for business girls for the prevention of delinquency and a service for them to get them established in the civilization which they find in Fairbanks? In other words, is the purpose to help those who are in trouble or is it to perform Christian service for those who have not been in trouble as a Y.W.C.A. might do? (3. The kind of personnel needed for this center will depend upon the answer to number 2. In other words, if this is to be a Christian social center with dormitory space it is possible to have a middle aged couple who are Christian and sympathetic with young people as the leaders of the center. On the other hand, if this is for the

purpose of rehabilitating people who have been in trouble, the successful prosecution of the program will need those who have been trained and who are specialists in this field. This might envision the necessity of having a couple in charge of the house and to have a trained case worker on the staff to deal with girls individually.

4. Following the answers to the first three questions it may be possible then to build a realistic basic budget to provide for what is needed., including the necessary staff to carry out the program. This should include something for the maintenance of the property, salaries for the staff, all items of cost and all sources of revenue for it.

5. Some definite statement ought to be made concerning the organization and composition of a local board of directors or committee which would be responsible locally for the operation of the center. If we are to own the property and continue a controlling interest in its program, the majority of those on this Board ought to be from the local church, the Presbytery and the Board of National Missions.

6. In our discussion of the program of the Center, we have talked about some vocational training for jobs or other activities in the area. We should list the jobs which are open and the possibilities toward which a program of training should be directed, such as; housework, baby sitting, nurses aide, waittresses, etc.

It was the judgment of the members of our committee here that a visit from Miss Isabel Miller could help a great deal in accomplishing a clear line of thinking and the gathering of additional necessary information to bring this into definite form. Therefore, the committee recommend that Miss Miller come up to Fairbanks in connection with some other work she might need to do in the interior and work with your committee in securing the answers to all of these questions. The more we inquire into this the more we realize that this is a field for someone who has had some training and experience in it before we get into a program which we are not equipped to handle. The Board of National Missions meets on the 27th and 28th of this month and we have decided to present this matter again to the Advisory Committee on the 26th. We may not have definite information to present to them at that time but we want to keep it alive so that when we have a specific program and obligation to present the subject will not be cold in the minds of the Board who have to act upon it. If any of this material needed can be gotten to me before the 26th, it will be helpful but we ought to take sufficient time to do the job in a basic manner and have the material ready for action.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

JEJ:dj
cc: Miss Gladfelter
Dr. Baldwin
The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth
Miss Isabel Miller

Trailer Village. SEP 26 1956

708 Fulton-Slaterville
Fairbanks, Alaska
September 24, 1956

Dr. Earl Jackman
Board of National Missions
Presbyterian Church, USA
156 5th Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman:

Here are some more figures that may help on our Hospitality House project. I wrote a note to Mr. Alfsen but from what Mrs. Alfsen said, he had sent it on to you just as it was. It surely wasn't well written as it was for his use but he is more than busy so sent it on. Please excuse it. There is an error which should be corrected in it and that is the number of extra children cared for by Mrs. Davis during the past year in addition to her regulars. The number is 199 rather than 900.

Today I contacted as many agencies as possible and they were all most cooperative and some of them expressed a desire to see our project get going. The Welfare still has an average of four girls per month needing a temporary home until they can be placed in a foster home (not delinquent cases) ANS reports an increase ~~the~~ the numbers of children going to and from school - 162 twice a year and they feel that may very well be 325 increased as some of those being kept at the schools the year around will be sent back to their villages for the summer months. I was unable to get an accounting of the number of other types of patients or people just in need of places to stay for a night or so from them as the regular worker, Mrs. Loir is visiting in New York. I have written her your address and if possible, she will visit you. The Health Dept. has been bringing in on an average, 8 patients a month either for EENT or Orthopedic Clinics besides those who come in on emergency basis. They are often hard pressed for a place to put their people. The ANS Dentist, Dr. Riemer tells me he has had just since April 40 adults and 30 children come in for dental care and about ha~~f~~ of these have just come into town without appointments or letting anyone know. I talked with the man in charge of the Federal Jail. Any patient who has no place to stay is apt to end up as his guest. He says the number of natives - Eskimos or Indians- coming in town has increased. He gave me a list of those arrested, mostly for drunkeness or for misconduct, which did surprise me. So far this year he has had 81 Eskimos and 56 Indians. This will exceed by far the number of arrests for the past two years. Many of these are young women 18 yrs of age and older and many first offenders. As nearly as I can figure and it would in any case be an approximate estimate, we would be caring for about 12 persons each month besides the many others that we could in no way be sure of. I have had 25 calls for help during the past few weeks and it has meant much running around trying to find places for them to stay. We are glad to do it but we surely need a place to put them. The number of 12 is most conservative because there are several girls that I get in touch with needing assistance, sometimes a boy will be stranded or unable to live in his own home. Those I have contact with rarely are the charge of any agency. I feel that we would have perhaps 25 persons most of the time in addition to the children coming and

going in the fall and spring.

I hope you can make some sense out of this garbled letter. I felt I must get this information to you if possible this week. My supervisor has given me time to get this out and to make the phone calls. After having tried to deal with girls who have become alcoholics, she is most anxious that we get something started to help prevent it.

We feel too, that we cannot deal with those who are already delinquent. The task would be too great and perhaps we can keep a few from getting into this state in the first place, rather than try to cope with the task when they have been delinquent for quite a while.

We are praying and just waiting to see what God will do. I have the assurance in my heart that if it is His will, it will be done and surely He is more concerned than we could possibly be.

Sincerely,

Mable R. Rasmussen

Mable R. Rasmussen

SEP 27 1956

VICTOR I. ALFSEN
Pastor

First Presbyterian Church

Corner Cushman and Seventh
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

P.O. BOX 2157

September 24, 1956

Dear Dr. Jackman . . .

Mrs. Rasmussen didn't want me to send these notes to you without transcribing them but I figured that you would rather have the information now than a fancy letter later. I hope that this additonal information will help you.

Exhibits center.

Now another drastic development has come to pass. It seems that this long delay in plans has made the Greimann's reluctant to sell. Paul sold his used car lot a few weeks ago and is not so much in need of cash as when you talked with him. Mrs. Greimann told me outright that she was not too enthusiastic about selling but would go along with Paul.

Now we are negotiating with the American Legion about its building. That is the large log building Ernie Finell - good builder of log bldgs put up next to Fairview Manor. There would be not question about locating there as far as the City is concerned. It is a large building which could be made into what we want very easily. The location is good. Just think of all the baby sitting opportunities from the families in Fairview and Arctic Park! The building would easily be worth $60,000 Bert feels but the Legion is hard pressed financially and he thinks we could get it for $30,000. The Legion will discuss this tomorrow night at their regular meeting. All of us here feel that this would be a fine building ideally suited to our need.

40 X 80

Yesterday we had the Fellowship Team here. The ladies spoke to capacity audiences both here and at John's and were very well received .

Relative to a special speaker, I would think that the All-Alaska Conference would be a "natural" time and place and also not too bad a time for a follow up in the Interior. The dead of winter would be my second choice. A time when "cabin fever" has us all in its grip and we need a spiritual shot in the arm.

In Chrisyian Fellowship,

Victor Alfsen

SEP 27 1958

Pub. Children Home

Mr. Alfsen:

I feel that the figures given last fall for 1955 by the different social agencies, are far short of what they will be for this year. I was unable to contact these agencies over the weekend but will see what I can do Monday morning. Dr. Jackman has these figures but I'm wondering if Mrs. Davis' report of having cared for 900 in addition to her regulars was included. This shows the many who are not contacting the social agencies. My reason for feeling there may be quite an increase in numbers of Eskimos and Indians coming to town is that the DEW line employs quite a few and when they or their families need medical care they just get on the plane and come to town. If they have no place to go they of course go to the ANS office but if it is on a week end they are stranded and many of them land on our doorstep. We have had about 25 contact us during the past few weeks for assistance of one kind or another and always on a week end. Another thing that brings them to town is the fact that we now have an ANS Dentist and for the first time they can get their teeth fixed. They just come in even without an appointment and sometimes have to stay for a few weeks.

Question 1 -- Number of people to be served at Center- This can better be determined when we get the latest information from the Welfare-ANS plus other agencies.

As to the ages we would serve: We should not limit this as we may at one time have older people going to San or village- often the Health Dept. brings children, even infants in to town for Orthopedic Clinic or for EENT Clinic. They are often hard pressed for a place to board them during their stay in town. We may have a man occasionally but for the most part they stay at the hotels. The only place to send a man who is out of funds or in need of medical care is to the Salvation Army Dormitory which is not too suitable because of the type of men who are usually cared for there. Then there are the ages of 13 to 22 -girls for the most part and of course this is the main desire for such an establishment.

Question 2 --

Purpose or function of Center. I believe it should be classified as a Social Service Center with Dormitory rooms. At least that comes the nearest to describing what we wish to do . We do not want to work with those who are already considered delinquent as it is true that it would take a trained staff and an entirely different set-up. We should however, feel that if a young person has got off on the wrong foot that he or she, if wanting assistance and a chance to start over, the child should be helped. In other words, we would attempt to prevent delinquency in either young or older people by providing them with a place to come to, to meet their own kind for friendliness and wholesome association. There is just no place in all of Fairbanks other than the bars where a native person can feel free to go while in town. During the cold weather they are practically forced to go in to the bars just to keep warm. Here is a list that may give the information briefly.

a--Care of people in need of place to stay temporarily while getting medical care or dental care or being sent from San to village or to the hospital. Also for temporary care of those brought in from the villages for Clinics in town conducted by the Health Dept.

b--A place for young girls needing temporary care while learning home making, simple cooking and baby care so that they can take employment as mother's helpers or baby sitters. If we can get them as soon as they get to town they can be helped and at the same time kept from trouble.

c--A place for groups to meet with their own people for wholesome entertainment and fellowship, or where they can feel free to come to learn to sew or to talk over their problems in group work and help to better themselves.

SEP 27 1956

d--Assistance to those young people who have got off on the wrong foot and have expressed a desire to start over. (In my visiting in the Detention Home I have had a few who really wanted to try to do better. It is is not of much use for me to visit with them for a few hours just to dis- their problems when I can offer them little or no actual assistance.)

e. A place for those who are in town for just a few hours or between planes with no place else to go.

f. We would also like to have a boys group where they could have a small shop in which to learn to use tools and to give them something definite to help them feel a part of the group.

There may be many other things that could be done. We have had the offer of a former Public Health Nurse who would be willing to teach Expectant mothers classes. We will have the use of anything the Health Department has for the purpose of teaching. We will also have the cooperation of the Agricultural Dept. at the University if we wish to have a garden and teach the Eskimos how to grow much of their own food. This sounds like a lot to be done but could very well be accomplished with volunteer help as well as the people in charge. Many offers have come in to help with most anything but cash. There is no limit to what could be done and no doubt will be in time.

Note: Please excuse this typing. It honestly is my typewriter. I need a new one. You will have to sort out what you want to use, to add to what you will want to say. I'm not too good at this sort of thing.

Mable Rasmussen

another letter from Mrs Rasmussen indicates a minimum of 12 girls most of the time and more nearly 24 for more than half of the week.

native students "passing through" - 162 - twice a year.

miss Jessie Mayo of Detention Home, city of Fairbanks.

cc
Eskimo Center

September 28, 1956

VIA AIRMAIL
The Rev. Victor I. Alfsen
P. O. Box 2157
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Vic:

We have received your letter containing the notes from Mrs. Rasmussen and also a letter from Mrs. Rasmussen clearifying some of the things which were in her notes. This morning we received your telegram giving a price on the American Legion building and asking if you should continue negotiations with them.

I have consulted with the other two members of the Committee and both of them feel that the program outlined yet is not as definite as it ought to be in order for us to ask Board authority and funds for the purchase of a property and the basic amount necessary for the budget. I gave a report of progress on this to the Advisory Committee of the Board on Missionary Operation and had to say that we were not yet ready to make a definite recommendation. We all recognize the need and feel that something ought to be done about it but those who are closes to the operation of these projects feel that we are not yet definite enough with program and therefore, cannot ask for funds for a building. Frankly, I doubt if I am going to be able to get any action until someone who has some professional ability in this field actually visits Fairbanks to bring back a specific report on what ought to be done and what is involved in it along with the cost.

The American Legion building sounds as though it has real possibilities for reconstruction on the inside to carry a variety of program for youth. The fact that it was built by Ernie Finell would commend itself to me as a good log job. The location next to Fairview Manor would be a good location for possible baby sitting and housework for Eskimo girls but I am not sure that it is a favorable location for a Fellowship Center. The young people would still be torn between the attraction of the bright lights on Second Avenue, and the Center which would be a considerable distance from there. We are sorry that the Greimanns have decided not to sell because their house was well located in relation to the church and the downtown district to make a possible attractive location.

My impression is that we had better refine our ideas in the way of program now and hope under the providence of God that when we are ready there will be a suitable building available for us for the Lord's work. This project will need

capital funds for a building plus additional budget funds to carry the responsibility for personnel and operation. It will be necessary for us to have action from the Board on both of these points. The budget for personnel and operation is tighter than the budget for the building right now, so we have to come up with a very strong case in the form of a specific program before we can hope to get action. I feel this is something the Board will undertake in its program but we do not seem to be ready with a clear enough statement of what we propose to do to answer all of their questions and seek a favorable action on current budget and building funds.

You will be interested to know that the Board has just appropriated $6,000 toward a manse in Wasilla, which was the amount which the officers of the church there said would be needed for them to build a log house on a concrete block basement.

Best regards to all of you.

Cordially yours,

JEJ:dj
cc: The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

September 28, 1956

VIA AIRMAIL
The Rev. Victor I. Alfsen
P. O. Box 2157
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Vic:

We have received your letter containing the notes from Mrs. Rasmussen and also a letter from Mrs. Rasmussen clearifying some of the things which were in her notes. This morning we received your telegram giving a price on the American Legion building and asking if you should continue negotiations with them.

I have consulted with the other two members of the Committee and both of them feel that the program outlined yet is not as definite as it ought to be in order for us to ask Board authority and funds for the purchase of a property and the basic amount necessary for the budget. I gave a report of progress on this to the Advisory Committee of the Board on Missionary Operation and had to say that we were not yet ready to make a definite recommendation. We all recognize the need and feel that something ought to be done about it but those who are closes to the operation of these projects feel that we are not yet definite enough with program and therefore, cannot ask for funds for a building. Frankly, I doubt if I am going to be able to get any action until someone who has some professional ability in this field actually visits Fairbanks to bring back a specific report on what ought to be done and what is involved in it along with the cost.

The American Legion building sounds as though it has real possibilities for reconstruction on the inside to carry a variety of program for youth. The fact that it was built by Ernie Finell would commend itself to me as a good log job. The location next to Fairview Manor would be a good location for possible baby sitting and housework for Eskimo girls but I am not sure that it is a favorable location for a Fellowship Center. The young people would still be torn between the attraction of the bright lights on Second Avenue, and the Center which would be a considerable distance from there. We are sorry that the Greimanns have decided not to seel because their house was well located in relation to the church and the downtown district to make a possible attractive location.

My impression is that we had better refine our ideas in the way of program now and hope under the providence of God that when we are ready there will be a suitable building available for us for the Lord's work. This project will need

capital funds for a building plus additional budget funds to carry the responsibility for personnel and operation. It will be necessary for us to have action from the Board on both of these points. The budget for personnel and operation is tighter than the budget for the building right now, so we have to come up with a very strong case in the form of a specific program before we can hope to get action. I feel this is something the Board will undertake in its program but we do not seem to be ready with a clear enough statement of what we propose to do to answer all of their questions and seek a favorable action on current budget and building funds.

You will be interested to know that the Board has just appropriated $6,000 toward a manse in Wasilla, which was the amount which the officers of the church there said would be needed for them to build a log house on a concrete block basement.

Best regards to all of you.

Cordially yours,

JEJ:dj
cc: The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

College, Alaska
Oct. 2, 1956

Dr. J. Jackman, Sec'ry
Dept of Work in Alaska
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave. N.Y., N. Y.

My dear Dr. Jackman:

This letter is regard to the proposed Eskimo Hospitality Center here in Fairbanks. Heretofore I have been in on none of the correspondence or communication directly. I have set in on meetings and have listened to much conversation. But yesterday after the receipt of your letter to Rev. Alfsen I thought I should write.

Rev. Alfsen in discouraged, Rev. Parker then read your letter and I thought the man was near tears. I have not had any reaction from Mrs. Rasmussen, but I know that her heart and prayers were so that perhaps this was an answer to her prayers that an Eskimo center could be set up, in this Legion Hall.

Vic showed me the many pages of communication that has gone from his desk thru himself, Mrs. Rasmussen and Rev. Armstrong which he thought quite ample. But I took issue with him on the matter saying if I were to decide to give a project 35,000 dollars and was responsible to another in the giving I would want just a little more definiteness too. If you have program then you can figure costs to carry the program and the costs of staff. It has all been implied but I think not all set down under "one two threes and four." I think that is what your feeling is and even though it was all given in Dr. Armstrongs communication ye t it was not given in a consise form.-- This comclusion is what I hope it should be.

The reason why I became considerably involved is because of the possible purchase of the Legion Hall. This was built by Ernie Finell out of the logs that were cut to about 7 inches in diameter by a mill. The mill is just South of Fairbanks on the Richardson and everything is precut to pattern and the building a very tight and neat job. It has a full basement and a full upper room. It lends itself to rooms, housing for the one in charge, dining room, parlor, and a possible craft shop. There is a stairway at both ends which cuts down about 10 feet on each end of the 40x80 structure. There is good storage possibilities in the stairway for clothes and chairs and things that might be needed for the usage of the building. There is a set of lockers on one end and under the stairs the usual place for brooms etc.

Belonging to the Legion I knew something of its finances. It was constructed while we were outside in 54. I favored a much smaller structure but some of the younger men were "eager beavers" working on the money saved thru the years by the older men. We had 35,000 in bonds etc when we started the building and those young "punks" spent no less than 48,000. Besides this there was considerable donated labor. Now they cannot meet their debts and the building could be sold at a sherrif sale if one of those we owe to would make a legal jump. The older men realize that.

We know the Catholic church is interested in the building, what for we do not know. Maybe they are interested in it for a church, or for a project similar to ours. Most older men of the Legion want to have our church have the building. At this writing it will have to go.

You spoke in your letter to Rev. Parker that you would hope to see him in Oct. We assume that you are thinking of coming North with the group holding evangelistic services. We hope and pray that that is to be your decision and that you will arrive. I do not belive your place in this matter can be substituted by Miss Isabelle Miller, or any other case worker. As I stated before the members of the staff there in town feel pretty low right at this point and only your approach to the matter with the Christian heart which has winning of hearts and lives to Jesus Christ will give them a feeling of confidence. Miss Miller is alright. She and Mrs. Bingle have been friends for years, But Government case workers have built up a partition between the worker and the christian to such an extent in the past that I believe your presence is the only one that can bring a needy work to its full frutition and do it now when it needs to be done.

Mrs. Rasmussen, Rev. Parker and myself will go over this matter as to programming at 2 PM today. We hope we can give to you the definiteness we need to give so we can so something more concrete.

I spoke with one of the members of the committee of the Legion yesterday tell of the delay and ask if they could not bear with us for a month on the subject so we could tell more than we can at the present time. I stated by your letter to Rev. Parker I thought you would be here in about three weeks and then the matter of programming could be gone over and decided upon. I hope and pray again I am right in my interpetation of the statement. I am afraid if this goes over to next Spring, Vic being out all next Summer, we might just as well give up the idea. Mrs. Rasmussen will have given up, Parker will be gone. It needs an old head like Parker. He said when he first heard of the building that if we could get it that he would stay on here longer than just next Spring.

My deepest hope and thought is that this letter has not been hurtful to the cause. It is anothers problem but yet I felt you would like to know what is going on in our minds and hearts.

I am feeling better right now from my cold. Mrs. Bingle has had it and it is shaking her in her shoes. I do not know whether it is weekness that I feel after physical labor or just laziness. I know I have a bug of some kind. Hope to go to Dome Cr. camp tonight and back down to Healy with Mrs. B. tomorrow(Wed) night.

Sincerely,

Rev. B.J. Bingle

P.S. I have not played on this Keyboard for so long my fingers dont track. Like some of my organists! B.J.B.

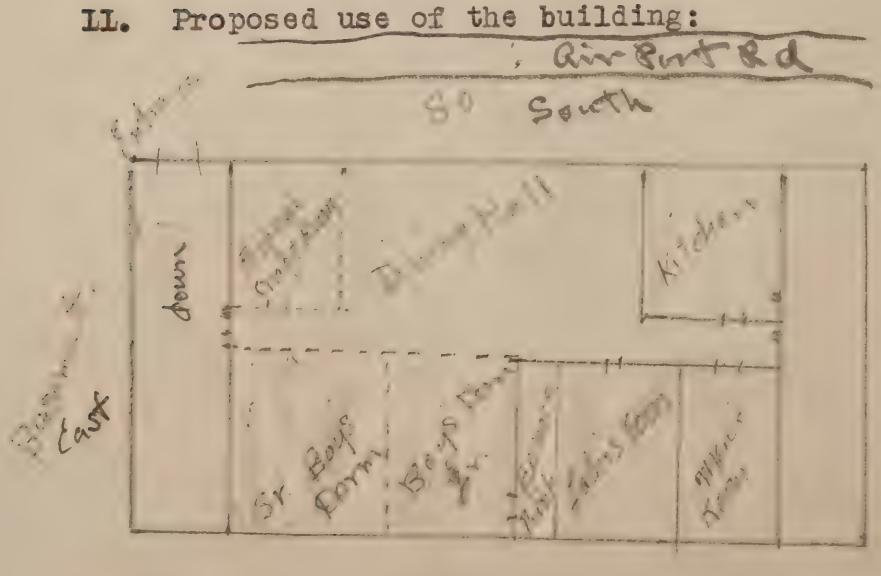
OCT 5

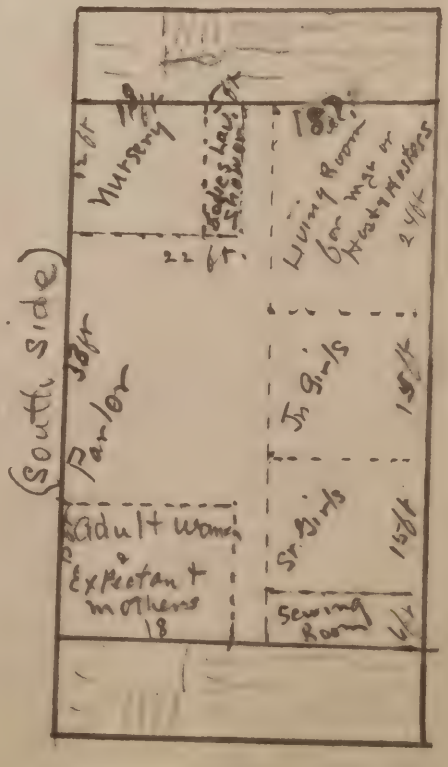
IF THE PRESENT LEGION HALL CAN BE PURCHASED FOR A NATIVE HOSPITALITY CENTER.

I. PROGRAM

1. Hostel for Native Alaskan predominantly
   a- Those traveling thru to school or hospital in another town
   b- Those assigned to Fairbanks by Public Welfare of A.N.S.
   c- Other indigents assigned- children, young people or adults.
2. This is to be a home for those coming to town with insuffieient funds
   a- Those coming in for medical attention
   b- Those coming for work without much schooling
   c- Those coming in who have had higher Education-(Hi School) and are also looking for work, needing an introduction to the community for work and living quarters(this latter group should be housed only for a short time under normal conditions)
3. Adults (anything done for this group is for short time as they would come in the number with those assigned by Welfare or A.N.S.)
   a- Women needing medical attention
   b- Expecting mothers- Unwed. Program of learning how to take care of their babies.
4. Employment agency for the Alaska Native.
   a- Helpful in finding applicant employment
   b- A follow up program to learn of progress made in employment .
5. Rehabilitation
   a- Teaching housework to young women
   b- Teaching crafts to young men(if Rev. Parker is here)
6. Parlor for home
   a- Make it a place where the young native people wish to get together.
      - a young lady can take her date
      - a young man can take the young lady for an enjoyable evening.
   b- Should consist of Phonograph, Radio or T.V., games, letterwriting
      - a snack bar is just across the street where the young folk can go

II. Proposed use of the building:





OCT 5 1956

lll. Potential Users:

1. Those going thru Fairbanks to school
   a- Autumn 1956-162 --- 162 went thru. Double the number for the year
   b- They slept students on the floors everywhere to get accomodations.
   c. The number increased this year much over last year.
2. Those assigned by the welfare dept. (they have asked for room for 4 to be held permanently for them- ei beds @ 25 dollars per mo each)
   a- These are not delinquents
   b-
3. Public Health assignees
   a- This year since Apr. there has been averaging 8 patients per Mo.
   b- Length of stay is from a few days to two weeks average.
4. The unannounced- just coming with no where to go or much to go on
   a- It would not be too much to assume two or three of these per day
   b- These we would attempt to get covered by proper authorities or be sent to proper houseing places where they would care for themselves.
   c. Food and other help for these could be secured from the community to a very helpful extent.
   d- These would be helped to help themselves by rehabilitation or be introducted to proper places in community for labor and lodging
5. Those coming for dental care
   a- This year the average is about 12 per month
   b- The Govt. authorities would assign them to us if not sufficient funds
6. Expectant Mothers (the unwed ones- number too high to estimate)
   a- Married Mothers if using our facilities would be assigned by Public Health Dept. or A.N.S.

7. Those coming into our community to find employment

8. S.S. Room.(At present a Moravian couple is using the Legion hall for S.S. purposes and are very desirious if we obtain the hall that they will be allowed its continued usage. This could be in the Parlor or in the dining hall)

lV. Expected or hoped for Revenues

1	Item no. 1 of previous page - we assume it would average per mo.	$ 8.00
2.	Item no 2 of previous page- Pub. Health asked for 4 beds @$25.00	-100.00
3.	Item no. 3 of previous page- those from Public Health per Mo	100.00
4.	Item no. 4 of previous page- those coming for dental work	75.00
5.	Items No 5,6,7 of previous page -- get what can but only guess work.	
8.	Item no. 8 of previous page-- Use of room for S.S. by Moravian coupl	100.00
	(Possible only)total per mo.	$ 383.00

V. Staff

1. Mr. and Mrs. Rasmussen
2. Elmer Parker

(we creep before we walk. We will make out with that which we have. We do feel we can get volunteer workers - Eskimo and white to some extent.)

Vl. Costs of operation

1 Costs as submitted by Dr. Armstrong will be practically the same with this building as to utilities(light, telephone, water) and as to heat.
- The present cost of operating building is approximately
  -heat: 8 months at$175.00 per month(this might be upped $25.00)
  -Utilities 8 mo 55.00 per month (this also could be increased by$15.00 if cooking is done by electricity as at present.)

2. The Rasmussens will donate their time and talent for the good of the user in the work of the Lord. They should be given free housing and food costs for all extra livingthere

OCT 5 1956

Miss Katharine E. Gladfelter October 5, 1956

Isabel Miller

Christian Social Work Service Fairbanks Hostel

The members of my advisory committee felt, when we discussed the matter on the 2nd, that I could be helpful in the matter of clarifying plans for the proposed hostel in Fairbanks, and that I should plan a trip up there this fall if requested to do so by you or Dr. Jackman. This morning Mr. Cleworth and I again discussed the recent correspondence including the letter of Dr. Jackman to Mr. Alfsen on September 17th, and agreed that I should write to you to see if and when you and the others think I should make this trip. If you feel it should be before Miss Irvine's visit, I will need to readjust my plans so as to leave for Fairbanks about a week from now, possibly on Friday, the 12th, or Tuesday, the 16th.

The way things look at present I would be able to cover most if not all of this extra trip withinemy present travel budget for this year, and at the same time take care of the other essential trips which are planned between now and January 1st (being at Haines all summer, doing some side business trips on my vacation trip to Wrangell, and some planning with the Princeton-Hall for early November help to conserve travel funds). However, if I can make a plan for a circle trip to return from Fairbanks via Anchorage with a stopover for work in Yakutat, the cost of the trip north will run over $100 and I will probably need a little more from some source.

I have not discussed the matter of the hostel with Mr. Alfsen, so do not know if he feels I would be helpful, but at least I could acquaint the men in the Alaska Presbytery with what the plans are when I returned-- and from the varying opinions which we found just within my committee, that is needed.

CC: Dr. Jackman
Mr. Cleworth
Mr. Alfsen

October 9, 1956

VIA AIRMAIL
The Rev. Victor I. Alfsen
Box 2157
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Vic:

Bert sent me a copy of the program which was drawn up by Elmer Parker, Mrs. Rasmussen and himself with a rough sketch of the possible division of the Legion house building for accommodations which are needed for our Eskimo work in Fairbanks. Inasmuch as the Legion is meeting on the evening of October 9th, he asked that I send you a wire trying to give some assurance of available funds for the purchase of the Legion building. I sent a wire but recognized that it does not give any satisfaction to you or to me about prospective results.

Evidentaly we need to come down to a few basic facts. Mrs. Rasmussen and the rest of you told me the story of the need. That story was relaid to the Advisory Committee of the Board which decided that something must be done but we had no specific proposal or cost of it to present to them. All of us face the fact that the purchase of the building would in a period of five years be a smaller item than the cost of personnel and operation. As I said in my last letter to you the source of money for personnel and operation maybe more of a problem even than the building right now. We have pushed the need at every opportunity to remind people here that something must be done. In our last meeting of the Cabinet it became evident to me that this will not be operated by our department. All of the community centers which the Board has are operated either by Education and Medical Work or by City and Industry office which has supervision and relation to community centers in city areas. The best that I could get out of the last Cabinet Meeting was the appointment of a committee consisting of a representative of Ed and Med, C and I and myself as Chairman. Along with this halfway action it becomes evident that neither Ed and Med nor C and I will take the project seriously until there is something very definite put down in writing by someone who has had some experience and training in the field of survey for such a project. The feeling of these two departments is that the committee up there is sympathetic and deeply concerned in a Christian way but lacking in experience of what is involved in setting up and conducting such a center. It was from this angle that Miss Miller was suggested to come up to Fairbanks to help.

There seems to be some misunderstanding. Elmer Parker's letter and the one from Bert Bingle seem to imply that it was proposed to assign Miss Miller to Fairbanks to operate this project. Miss Miller is a field worker under the department of Education and Medical Work to give guidance and help to our institutions, churches and families concerned in our total National Missions program where there are questions of family and social implication. It was the idea to ask Miss Miller to come up and visit with your committee to point out some of the technical and [illegible]

Miss Betty Irvine of the department of Education and Medical Work is coming up to Alaska with our Preaching Mission. She is to meet with the Hospital Board in Palmer the evening of the 19th, stay in Anchorage over Sunday and come up to Fairbanks the morning of the 22nd. She will be there for twenty-four hours. A letter from Miss Miller indicates her willingness to come up and council with the Committee if she can work it into her plans. I had planned to be in Fairbanks near the end of that week but since it is possible, by some adjustment of plans, to have Miss Irvine, Miss Miller and myself there about the same time, I am proposing to change my plans and be in Fairbanks on October 22nd. We are asking Miss Miller to do everything possible to be there the same day. All of us should spend as much of the day as possible on this project and see at the end of our conferences whether we can come out with a definite program which can be recommended by our Committee here to the Cabinet and the Board for adoption and financial support. It is understood that Miss Irvine does not have the power of finanldecision for their department, the Cabinet or the Board but we shall look at this thing together with your Committee and hope that we can expect something definite from this conference.

I had hoped to spend the early part of the Preaching Mission period in southeastern Alaska and come up to the interior for the latter part of it but will reverse this plan in order to give definite emphasis to the need in Fairbanks. Please advise John Stokes that I shall stay over for Tuesday with the hope of spending a little time with him on their building problem. If we can clear everything that needs to be done I'll take the afternoon plane on Tuesday down to Anchorage for some time there.

I know that y u are all discouraged over this lack of action. Sometimes some of us who feel these needs in our hearts are a bit frustrated because we cannot get the action which we would like to have in the Lord's work. In administrative circles we have to be very concise in what we propose to people who have no background in order to get favorable action. This is another case of the same kind and we hope and pray that definite results will come soon.

Regards to every one .

Cordially yours,

JEJ:dj
cc: The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth
The Rev. B. J. Bingle
The Rev. Elmer E. Parker

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Department of Work in Alaska

P. S. I'll be writing to the Nordale Hotel for a reservtion there in order to be near the center of town for as much time as possible in our problems.

JEJ

copy to Dr. Jackman, Kotzebue & Anchorage.
10/16/56 K

OCT 15 1956

Miss Katharine E. Gladfelter

Isabel Miller

Christian Social Work Service

October 10, 1956

Fairbanks Trip

A card from Mr. Alfsen received yesterday says that he feels my trip should be delayed until later, ~~until after~~ Dr. Jackman's visit this fall at least. That suits me better, too, since I am a little crowded for time now, and would like to plan to include both Anchorage and Yakutat in the Northern trip when I do take it since I find that it can be done for only about $25 more than the round trip to Fairbanks.

I will wait to hear from you or Dr. Jackman before trying to set another date for the Fairbanks trip. I let Mr. Cleworth know by phone last night how it stands at present.

CC: Dr. Jackman
Mr. Alfsen

OCT 17 1956

Miss Katharine E. Cradfelter

October 15, 1956

Isabel Miller

Christian Social Work Service

Fairbanks Hostel

Your October 8th memo was here when I got back from Angoon on Friday, and Mr. Cleworth said that Mr. Bingle had phoned him while I was gone to ask if I could come up several days in advance of Dr. Jackman's visit. So I have a reservation to fly direct to Fairbanks tomorrow. (I hope my refund gets in the bank in time for me to buy my ticket!) After considerable discussion, Mr. Cleworth and I concluded it would be better to skip Yakutat and Anchorage for now, and try to do that later.

If Miss Irvine has not already left New York, tell her that I will be looking forward to seeing her in Fairbanks a week from today.

CC: Dr. Jackman

I just hope I will be some help on this hospital deal!

Ida

10/20/56 -I. Miller

Project was discussed with the following persons (10/16-19):

Rev. and Mrs. Bert Dingle — Mrs. Mabel Hammonds (Health Center Nurse.)
Rev. Elmer Parker — Mr. Warren Cramer (Extension Dept.)
Mr. and Mrs. Ayers Page - District Territorial Welfare Office
and Miss Ina Whitmer -- Central [illegible] office in Juneau, here on field trip
Miss Anna Crawford -- District Supervisor of [illegible] Nurses.
Mrs. Lydia Hahn-Hames -- Head of Home Demonstration - U. of A.
Miss Janet Lee Lamont-- Home demonstration agent for Fairbanks and the surrounding villages.
Mrs. Noir-- ec. in AWS office.
Mrs. McRae, Dean of Girls at the University
Captain [illegible] and Mrs. Donald Holbrook -- Salvation Army leaders.
Rev. Willard Lewis, Fairbanks Children's Home
Miss Mabel Holmes-- 15 year old Native girl. 7 years at St. Mary's Mission
Miss Lynn Wolfe--18 yr. old, just in from Tok Cut-off to Ring for work.
Mrs. Lilly Lord- young Native housewife.
Pres. - Mr. Richard Scott, head of Territorial Employment Office, and Mrs. Terri [illegible] who interviews Domestic Help employers and employees.

[illegible] Home matron
Mrs. Osborn -- Foster mother

Other likely persons to see, if time permits:
Miss Mary Follen, in charge of vocational home ec. for Territory
U. S. Commissioner
Labor Office representative
Territorial Police
~~Recreation Director~~
Vocational Counsellor at the High School
Head of Y, also of USO
More discussion with Mr. Alfer, and with other ministers in the community who are working with families in the low income group, particularly those who are moving into Fairbanks from outlying villages.
[illegible] Vocational School.-- Mr. Hogg

[illegible] from the above sources:

The representatives of the Territorial Welfare Dept. felt that the Church should aim at setting up a positive, preventive type of program with a plan for financing it which was not dependent on public funds for its initial or continuing operation, but which might later be a resource for the purchase of care by public agencies. For example they felt that that a combination hostel and recreation center for girls over 16, working girls, or anything in the "maternity home" line would be a real asset to the community, particularly if it could be set up so as to utilize other community resources such as the developing Y program, extension dept. services, employment office, school, etc. and also if it could get established in the minds of the young people as place one chose to go, rather than as a place to which one was "sent". That is, it would be better to start with young people not under court commitment (though some of these would doubtless have similar problems to the girls and boys for which the Welfare Dept. are legally responsible).

Mr. [illegible] Dist. Rep., said regarding any specific use or payments which their department might make at the present, that the Welfare Department can make no commitments nor plan for any extension of their program until they see what the Legislature does to their funds next spring. They asked for $900,000.00 in 1955 and got $800,000.00 to take care of all of the young people committed to the care of the Dept. by the Courts for the current two year period. Boarding payments were necessarily cut 20% starting in June of 1956, and great care must be used in all areas of spending for juvenile code children if more cuts are to be avoided. Part of what happens to this program after next March (start of their fiscal year) will depend on whether the Legislature can understand the need to support this program (which is set up to support neglected and homeless children as well as juvenile offenders, who make up a very small proportion of the over 700 children committed to the Department) adequately and will not switch funds to the new Juvenile Board's projects, as was done in the last legislature in place of making new funds available for that group. Mr. Pugh is very pessimistic as to local and territory wide support of funds needed for basic welfare work and for an increase in staff so as to give real casework service as well as the present meagre cash grants. At present all the children in the four Children's Homes in Fourth Division, except for a few at the Pentecostal Home, are children committed to the Department, which Mr. Pugh feels is not too healthy a situation for church supported institutions, even though the amount paid by the Territory does not meet all of the per capita costs.

Foster home placements for AFB beneficiaries (i.e. uncommitted Native children needing that kind of care) are made in this area by the Territorial welfare office with payment by AFB, since there is no AFB social worker in Fairbanks at present. The DPH office also provides temporary foster homes for the young patients which the Alaska Dept. of Health brings here for clinic service, provided they have the time and information needed for such planning. (The same service is probably available to AFB, but the Pughs did not mention that.) Mrs. Pugh said that while foster homes are not plentiful in Fairbanks, they are not too short of them except for Catholic children. The Pughs seemed to feel that the seasonal influx of students going through Fairbanks does not create a significant problem.

Mrs. Pugh, in particular, will be glad to give any help that she can in planning for a hostel for older girls.

Miss Crawford of the Alaska Dept. of Health thinks that Fairbanks will continue to be a major clinic center to which children will be brought in numbers ranging up to 18 sixteen from the outlying villages for varying lengths of outpatient treatment. She would be glad to have additional resources open up for boarding these children, since she feels the ones they usually use now are not always the best for some children, especially those coming from the more isolated communities. (It was not clear to the interviewer that AFB made the fullest use possible of DPH foster homes.) Miss Crawford thinks that a combination of older girls' hostel and temporary Health Dept. placements might be quite workable, especially if some of the older Native or Indian speaking girls could help in caring for the little ones. The Health Dept. at present pays $3.00 a day for room and board, and takes care of transportation, clinic visits, etc. as a rule.

Mrs. [illegible]-Tuman of the University Extension Dept. sees a working girls' hostel as an opportunity for teaching housekeeping, waitress work,

etc. as well as giving some girls a safe place to stay. She thought possibly such an educational program might receive financial help from the vocational home economic funds and suggested that Miss Mary Norton (office at the U. be contacted about this. (Miss Norton was not in her office, but a colleague thought that such a program would not qualify.) Mrs. John-Hansen has been interested in the help which Mrs. Rasmussen has been giving for three years to a group of Native girls and young women in cooking and sewing, and has given help wherever she could. She suggested that the new Home Demonstration worker, Miss Janet Lee Lamont, Federal Bldg., Fairbanks be asked for ideas and help. xxxtxxxxxxxxxxxxxMiss Mrs. John-Hansen spoke of special tourist training projects carried out for young people in some states and felt that the outline used for that might be suggestive of some things which could be done to help young people fit into Fairbanks living and jobs.

Miss Lamont is very new in this area, having trained at Syracuse, New York and worked chiefly with 4-H Clubs in that area. She is busy now getting 4-H club work completed for 1946 and Tenderfoot Clubs under way. She hopes to develop some year around community 4-H clubs in addition to the present seasonal project clubs which function only in the summer. Her work includes the villages in this area as well as Fairbanks. She was interested in knowing more about the things which Mrs. Rasmussen has been doing with the girls, and in giving any help which she can to her or with the hostel program. She wondered if some more intensive camp-like workshops might not get across teaching in the hostel setting rather than long time club projects. She suggested talking with the local Girl Leaders regarding recreation possibilities for teenage girls in Fairbanks, what it takes to qualify as a junior hostess, etc.

Mrs. John-Hansen introduced us to Mrs. McGee, Dean of Women, when we met on the campus, and to our questions about how many hours a day a university girl worked for room and board, she said none of them worked with that arrangement in family homes. Those who work at campus jobs get $1.50 an hour. For baby sitting they get from 50¢ to $1.00 an hour depending on how much attention the children require and whether or not they do house work in addition. Except for rare exceptions, all girls are required to attend study table on week nights, so cannot go out on baby-sitting jobs except on the weekend. (According to Bob Walker, student agent on Sunday, maintenance jobs to all students pay $1.50 an hour, but to full time workers on the campus, the rate of pay is $1.00 to $2.50 an hour.)

Mrs. Hair, secretary in the Alaska Native Service office, who acts as a fill in during the absence of a resident social worker and who relays requests for financial aid to Mrs. Dimkert in their Area office in Juneau, is faced more directly than most of the workers here with the problem of Native girls looking for work and a place to stay. She tries to help them find jobs and places to stay, but too often with disappointing results. She feels that a decent, inexpensive place to stay would be a help, but wonders how well some of them would take to supervision, though she thinks Mrs. Rasmussen would work out better than most as a housemother since she has already won the confidence of a number of them with her club work, etc. In speaking of the difficulty that a girl has getting along, Mrs. Hair said that the cheapest single room she had heard about was $4 a day, though there was probably weekly rates that would be some help. She knew of no one who gave both board and room to working girls. She said she

Mrs. Noir described the difficulty which some local girls have in holding jobs, partly because their homes and the community furnish such poor surroundings for their time off. Part of that is due she feels to the substandard, but high rental housing that is available to Natives. She told of a mother of 7 who had come in for help because her husband is only making $50 a week and their rent for a one room house is $61 a month with out any utilities, and the nurse said they should move because the poor housing is probably the cause of one of the children having to be hospitalized with pneumonia. This family has recently come to Fairbank from a village after the husband lost part of a foot through freezing and can no longer work outside in the winter. Here he has a janitor job in a bar. Mrs. Noir said she knew a family who were paying $75 a mo. for an even worse one room house.

Captain and Mrs. Donald Tolhurst have recently taken over the Salvation Army work in Fairbanks. Here their work in largely with whites rather than with Natives as it was in Juneau. They have a young people's group which meets for recreation on Friday nights (largely self directed). They have a bunk room that can take care of 14 men, plus a small sitting room, and cooking facilities. Some of the men are there only a short time while they are looking for work, but some older men are using this as an alternative to the Pioneer Home. A more adequate single room is furnished to the old man who runs their clothing store(the store is in another section of town), and he is also paid $20 a week for his work. The charge for a bed at the Salvation Army is $10 a week and those who do not pay are supposed to work two hours a day on maintenance of the building. The men are buying their own television, with small contributions which Mr. Tolhurst takes up each night when he checks them in by having them sign the register at 9:30. During the winter meals will be prepared, using partly surplus supplies.

At the Fairbanks Children's Home we talked with Mrs. Davis. They take care of 22 children (half boys and half girls)most of them long time placements, only one pre-schooler at present, and the oldest is 12. One older girl with her baby is there as a helper and receives $60 a month. Mrs. Davis feels that a place where girls could live and get training would be a help to them. In their own project they try to make full use of communities resources for their children, and feel that being located in town has lots of advantages for the type of thing they want to do. Paper routes and some baby-sitting give spending money opportunities to their older children. The Health Dept. uses this home for temporary care, too, and sometimes Mrs. Davis takes the children to clinics for them. Mrs. Davis is specially interested in retarded children.

The next day we paid a brief visit to the Lesborne home which is often used for Health Dept. placements as well as for other children who need long time care. The children seemed happy, but the quarters seem a bit small for 9 children. An older girl works part time for her room and pays for the care of her baby. She does other work in the community, too. A piano, television and radio all in one room, plus the children and their playthings and three white adults must be a little hard for new little ones.

Pres

Mr. Richard Scott and Mrs. Harris of the Territorial Employment Office were helpful in explaining the services offered by that organization and were particularly interested in any thing that the Church might do to help Native girls fit in better as employees in the community.

All services of the employment office are free including aptitude tests which they give to all highschool graduates, and are glad to give to other applicants. Samples of their application blank, and other records are available, together with explanations of their services, and they felt that for inexperianced applicants a member of the hostel staff might be helpful in letting them know how to use the Employment Office services. They work with Mr. Daniel Mattox, Guidance Counselor at the High School in connection with his "learner" program and in helping students get summer employment, but there is not a particular emphasis on "casual" labor, that is the odd job sort of thing, nor does their office take care of much of the "baby-sitting" that is part time. (See NewsLiner-- 10/20, page 4, for article on part time employment for students.)

This office does handle domestic work, and Mrs. Harris does most of the interviewing of both employers and employees. Just at present supply has caught up with demand pretty well. Most of the workers live in or do part time work for a number of employees. The latter pays fairly well if a worker can get a large enough list of regular employers, and I think she said it pays about $2.00 an hour. She knows of one difficult live in job that pays as much as $150 a month, but mostly a girl gets $80 to 100 (and some of them less) with one day off a week. They refuse to send a girl out for as little as $60 a month which is what some of the women want to pay. Also they object to the practice used sometimes, especially at Ladd field, where the employer pays partly in used clothing. Girls not living in, make from $4 to $6 a day usually. Occasionally a girl can get a dishwashing job in a restaurant which pays $1.25 an hour, but nearly always the white girl is chosen in preference to the Native girl.

The employment blanks make no reference to race and that is not mentioned when a girl is recommended to an employer, but the following complaints come pretty regularly about Indian and Eskimo girls: (1) Not reliable-- since even though capable and good on the job, they too often fail to come back promptly after their day off, sometimes waiting a day or two before appearing. (2) Many have a child to support, and sometimes when allowed to bring the youngster along on the job, will leave it for the employer to look after on the worker's day off. (3) Susceptibility to the use of alcohol, especially on time off. (Mrs. Noir had illustrated this with reference to a particular girl who lasted 5 weeks, giving good satisfaction, after having been cleared for a Ladd pass with great difficulty, and then failed to return and was picked up by the police, and is now pregnant.)

Mrs. Rasmussen took me to see the women's section of the City Jail on Saturday afternoon. This includes a 4 bunk room for girls with meagre furnishings. The whole set-up is quite makeshift, with an unsanitary, poorly equiped kitchen. We were shown around by the recently hired temporary matron, a 58 year old white woman, with matron experience in the Wyoming State School for girls, who came to the Territory as a lingerie salesman recently and could not make a go of it, especially not with the $8 room and the price of meals. She had to turn to the Welfare Dept, for help, first in trying to locate a job and then for cash enough to see her through a week. When she appealed to the priest for money enough for fare to the states, he told her about this job. She was

not only upset about the 24 hour nature of the job and the poor conditions under which she has to work, but also disturbed about the lack of protection of the young girls from the military personnel in particular. The sad condition of the 13 year old white girl, a resident at Ladd Base, who had been her most recent juvenile guest was bothering her a great deal. The book which lists the prisoners showed the same girls being picked up for vagrancy, etc. a number of times. Many of them were Eskimo and Indian girls, of whom quite a few were from Nome, Kotzebue and other outlying villages.

Friday evening at the Homemakers' Club which Mrs. Hammond sponsors, I talked with several of the girls about working conditions, the kind of training needed, jobs they had had, etc. Rachel Solomon who had about three years at Mt. Edgecumbe and is now 18, said that she had a job two years ago at Ladd for $15 a week with 7 children in the family. Her most recent job there paid $20 a week, with 2 days off some weeks. She worked from 8 to 5:30, looking after the three children, getting lunch and sometimes dinner. Her employer told her what to cook, but her home ec. training at Mt. Edgecumbe had prepared her to cook satisfactorily. She was also able to do sewing for the family. She was glad to have had a semester each of home nursing and first aid at school, too. She felt that training in all of these fields is essential for girls doing housekeeping jobs. When asked if Native girls ever did anything besides housework jobs here, the girls all said they knew of no girls in sales jobs, but did know one who was a car hop at a drive-in restaurant.

The two girls who had just arrived from Kotzebue and been referred to Mrs. Hammond for jobs (by BIA?) seemed very vague about where they were staying and how they were going to find jobs. Myra had left her 9 mo. old baby at home with her mother in Kotzebue.

Mrs. Lilly Lord and Rachel both felt that girls would welcome an inexpensive decent place to stay.

Note: Mrs. Johnson-Hansen thought that the Corpsmiths and other similar groups might help with the hostel project.

Miss Katharine E. Oladfelter October 29, 1956

Isabel Miller

Christian Social Work Service Fairbanks Hostel
Box 1[illegible], Juneau

At the meeting in Fairbanks on the 22nd, Dr. Jackman suggested that I put in writing recommendations regarding program and personnel as I see them at present for the consideration of you and others interested in the possibility of starting a center of a community service nature in Fairbanks. The main ideas in the following suggestions were discussed at the meeting, but some of the details have been added as the result of discussion with Miss Irvine, Dr. Armstrong and others since then.

PROGRAM

With the understanding that other emphases may develop later, it seems well to concentrate for the present on the following:

1. To assist girls of working age (e.g. over 16) in their adjustment to urban living by giving them:

   a. An inexpensive, wholesome place to live until they can make other satisfactory arrangements in the community (with a plan for them to pay in cash or by work the cost of the hostel board and room).

   b. Help in locating and adjusting to a job, including how to use the Territorial Employment Service and other community resources.

   c. Help in getting needed training or further formal education, using the hostel staff, public schools, 4-H materials, etc.

   d. Help in exploring the community for a wider selection of job openings than now seem to be available for girls with "village" backgrounds.

   e. A center for recreational activities for them and their friends both while in residence and after they have moved elsewhere -- coupled with helping them to use the recreation facilities of the Y, the USO, and other wholesome community programs.

2. To provide temporary dormitory space (using recreation rooms and other space not interfering with the quarters of staff and resident girls) for transient student overnight housing, or between plane headquarters, as a service primarily to Sheldon Jackson students en route.

3. To make a start toward a "settlement house" type of service (partly because of the need to strengthen the ties of the resident girls with their families)-- e. g. to furnish a meeting place and some educational and social activities for families(not necessarily Native) who because of language difficulty, different customs, inadequate housing, low income, etc. find it hard to achieve a wholesome adjustment to life in Fairbanks.

4. To act as a focus for a citizen's group concerned with better housing and working conditions for low income families.

PERSONNEL

1. Man or woman to serve as the head of the project, preferably someone acquainted with life in the villages of the North and familiar with the business methods of the Church as well as possessing experience and training in group work, e. g. ability to work constructively with an advisory board, other staff members, church and public agency workers, etc. as well as with the clientel of the hostel. This person would not act in the direct houseparent capacity, and might be more effective housed outside of the center.

2. A mature couple to act as houseparents, with the wife on salary and carrying the major part of the work with the resident girls in relation to their life within the hostel, with the husband backing her up, though employed during the day elsewhere.

3. Woman to live in the hostel who is sympathetic to the program and able to serve as relief worker when the housemother has time off, even though she may be employed elsewhere.

4. Volunteer and part time workers-- enlisted in the community to serve particular needs according to a plan worked out by the Advisory Board and Staff-- utilizing as often as possible members of the ethnic groups served by the center, and those in the local Presbyterian church groups possessing the special skills needed.

ADVISORY BOARD

A local board with considerable responsibility for policy setting, general program planning, and financial undergirding should result in making the center and those using its services a more real part of the community. Instead of having the project financed and administered directly by one of the Departments of the Board in the New York office, would it be possible for the Board to hold title to the property and give general supervision and financial help on a contractual basis to a local board, using a plan similar to that in our mission supported churches in which the Sessions and Congregations are encouraged to become increasingly self-sufficient?

In addition to the board members representing the local Presbyterian church groups and the Yukon Presbytery, program planning, enlistment of volunteer leadership, and financing might be helped by including laymen representative of several of the following community agencies and groups:

Eskimos and Indians with professional or business status.
The Health Center and AN USPH Service
The Extension Dept. of the University
Territorial Employment Service
The high school, preferably someone familiar with the vocational guidance program
Alaska Dept. of Public Welfare
Alaska Native Service
Persons familiar with the Y and USO programs
A competent bookkeeper.
Civic and fraternal groups whose program focus is on helping youth, especially those who sponsor projects for girls.

Futther suggestions:

1. In setting up regulations for what the girls in residence and their guests can and cannot do at the hostel, it might be helpful to consult with leaders of the Y, the USO, the counselors at the highschool, parents of teen-agers in the church groups, and some of the local girls in that age group as to regulations of hours and activities that seem to be most constructive for girls in Fairbanks.

2. If there is thought of using the hostel for temporary housing of children under 16, such as those brought in by the Health Dept. for out-patient medical care, those who are planning for facilities and program should see the Fairbanks Office of the Department of Public Welfare about licensing regulations of foster care facilities before setting up quarters to be used for this service or making any arrangements to accept children of this age group, unaccompanied by their parents.

3. Every effort should be made to use and enlist the help and support of community services for those served by the center -- to conserve staff time, but more especially since that it a vital part of the integration of new comers to the community.

CC: Dr. Jackman
Miss Irvine
Mr. Cleworth
Mr. Alfsen
Dr. Baldwin in care of Miss Gladfelter

Eskimo Center - Fairbanks

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

TO Miss Cladfelter
FROM Miss Irvine
RE: Fairbanks Eskimo Center

DATE November 13, 1956

The following people met in the Presbyterian Church of Fairbanks October 22:

Rev. Vic Alfsen, Chairman	John Stokes
Mr. Elmer Parker	Rev. Upshaw
Mr. & Mrs. Herman Turner	Miss Arlie Bruce
Mrs. Rasmussen	Earl Jackman
Rev. & Mrs. Bert Bingle	Isabel Miller
Rev. Robert Lutz	Helen Irvine

Dr. Jackman was asked to summarize present status of proposed project.

Isabel Miller presented the results of her research. (see attached) The group received her report with appreciation and agreed to propose to the Board the establishment of a center with hostel facilities for 6 -10 girls, 16 years old or over with a program of guidance in vocational adjustment, educational opportunities and leisure time activity for those in residence and other young people of the community and adults.

The group then went to inspect the American Legion building which is for sale. It is a 40 x 80 log building on 2 lots 1.2 miles from center of town on airport road. City is growing in that direction. Housing project across the road, new school, and first unit of new YWCA. It is a two story structure - ground floor has a large room, furnace room, kitchen, 2 lavatories, small office. Main floor, one large room with 2 small offices and storage room.

Building Renovation needed for proposed program:

Exterior - chinking, shellac and varnish.

10

Facilities to be provided:
Ground floor - laundry room, combination recreation space and dining, use present kitchen and lavatories, lounge.
First floor - bedroom and living room for a couple, single room for another worker, 2 baths, 4 double rooms and 2 single to house 10 girls.

Equipment needed

Laundry - washer dryer
Dining chairs and tables for 15
Beds and dressers - 10
Lounge - sofa, chairs
Bedroom & living for couple
Bedroom for single worker
Recreational - ping pong, TV, phono.

Personnel

A couple and a single worker to care for
Building maintenance
Cooking
Supervision
Recreational leadership
Guidance & use of community resources - vocational, education, health, recreation.

cont'd

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

TO Miss Gladfelter
FROM Miss Irvine
RE: Fairbanks Eskimo Center

DATE November 13, 1956

Operational costs

Salaries	-	$4,500 annually
Upkeep	-	1,000 "
Heat & utilities		2,400
Provisions	-	3,000
Supplies	-	100
Mileage	-	300
		$11,300.

Income

Charge $3 a day for room and board at an average census of 6 a day, annual income of $6,500.

Plan of Organization

In view of comments made in Fairbanks and opinions of Miller, Cleworth and Armstrong - believe the local group would not appreciate the traditional form of direct headquarters administration and that the Fairbanks group would like this to be controled by the Fairbanks Presbyterian Church. I also believe group would prefer not to have channel of communication to the Board through C & I or Ed. & Med. I therefore suggest the following plan of organization:

A. A permanent supervisory committee composed of Miss Gladfelter, Dr. Baldwin, Dr. Jackman with Dr. Jackman as contact secretary.

1. This committee to determine annual BNM subsidy.
2. Appoint local board of directors.
3. Draw up standards of operation to include the following:

a. Program - hostel for 10 girls over 16
guidance - vocational etc.
recreation leadership for resident
& non resident adult education.

b. Widest possible use of all existing community agencies for in-center activities and off - i.e. school, YM, etc.
c. Recruitment of volunteer helpers
d. Secure community financial support on widest possible ~~lease~~ base
e. Non-denominational service.
f. Enlist manpower and financial support from all denominations. Get backing of United Church women and local council of churches.
g. Require payment for residence facilities.
h. Positive program to develop social and economic responsibility and independence.
i. Religious program - positive but non-proselytizing.
j. Adherance to BNM personnel policies and standards.

cont'd

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

NOV 13 1956

TO Miss Gladfelter
FROM Miss Irvine
RE: Fairbanks Eskimo Center

DATE November 13, 1956

-3-

B. Local Board of Directors
   1. Responsible to ~~have a~~ administrative committee for administration and direction of project with an annual BNM subsidy requested annually on basis of projected program, needs, etc.
   2. Hire and fire all personnel who will be responsible to local board an agency of the BNM.
   3. Membership to include representatives of Presbyterian Church, other churches, local health and welfare agencies.

Next Steps

1. Committee of Miss Gladfelter, Dr. Baldwin, Dr. Jackman, recommend undergirding this project at $4,000 for first year under above plan of organization.

2. Prior to Nov. 29 Cabinet meeting have an architect inspect building and give a statement on whether proposed facilities can be included and cost. Suggest Mr. Ed Phillco be asked to do this.

3. Cabinet be requested to approve building grant necessary to purchase and remodel.

HEI:cmh

cc: Dr. Jackman
Miss Isabel Miller

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

NOV 14 1956

TO Dr. Jackman, Miss Gladfelter for Alaska Committee

FROM Miss Irvine DATE November 13, 1956

RE: Youth Center in Sitka

November 3 I called on Miss Helen Frost who is a worker for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sitka. Miss Frost is stationed in Sitka to minister to Evangelical Lutherans at Mt. Edgecombe School and Hospital. She visits patients in the hospital and opens her small home, just back of the photo shop on the main street, to students of their denomination. They come there to play quiet games, records, drink coffee and enjoy the atmosphere of a private home. There were 3 students there playing Scrabble when I visited. There are 18 E.L. students at the school to whom this center is home. They are Eskimo young people from the E.L. area in the north. Miss Frost also teaches their religious instruction class at the school. She is not interested in broadening service to include any other students and seemed to feel that students have so little time in Sitka that a center is not necessary. Miss Frost has no official relationship with the Lutheran Church in Sitka as it is United Lutheran. The "Service Center" of that church is not open to individuals but is used as a meeting place by Rotary and other groups of Sitka.

It is of interest also that there is a "Teen Age Center" in the old school building just off the Sheldon Jackson campus. This is run by a group of parents and is open Friday and Saturday nights. Memberships are purchased and only those who do not abuse privileges are allowed in. Dancing and other recreation comprise the program. It is not open when Edgecombe and Sheldon Jackson students have town leave.

It would seem to me that the Protestant Church people could get together in Sitka and provide a drop in center if they feel the need in the Lutheran Church, the Teen Age Center, the new Presbyterian Church or a store front.

HEI:cmh

11/15/56

REPORT ON PROPOSED CENTER FOR ESKIMOS IN FAIRBANKS

On October 22, 1956 Miss Isabel Miller, Miss Helen Irvine, and Dr. J. Earl Jackman met with the Eskimo Committee of Fairbanks in the First Presbyterian Church of Fairbanks for further consultation on a program and place for a Christian center for the Eskimos of Fairbanks. Those present of the local Committee were Revs. Victor Alfsen, Chairman, Elmer Parker, John Stokes, Bert Bingle and Mr. and Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Rasmussen. Two visiting ministers from the states, Robert Lutz and James Upshaw, were also present.

Mr. Alfsen led the meeting with devotions.

The Eskimo population of Fairbanks was estimated to be between 600 and 800 with a very high percentage of them from that part of the Arctic area where the Presbyterian Church has comity responsibility. The number is increasing each year.

Dr. Jackman reported to the local committee on the presentation of this need to the Cabinet of Missionary Operation with the result that a staff committee was appointed to work with the Fairbanks Committee to get a specific proposal of program, place, and personnel for such a project. This Staff Committee consists of Miss Katherine Gladfelter, Dr. Harold Baldwin and Dr. Jackman as chairman. Dr. Baldwin reported that Mr. John Park Lee would act on the Committee for him. This Committee met in New York and asked for a specific statement of program from the Committee in Fairbanks. It was decided to ask Miss Isabel Miller to visit Fairbanks, study the situation and gather information so that a meeting could be held with the Fairbanks Committee when Miss Helen Irvine and Dr. Jackman would be in Fairbanks on October 22, 1956.

Miss Miller then gave her report as a result of four days of inquiries and contacts with agencies and people related to the situation. After a discussion of the situation and the need, Miss Miller recommended that a place be purchased and held by the Board of National Missions.

A. Where the following program could be pursued: -

1. to assist girls of working age in their adjustment to urban living with a place to live, help in locating a job, needed training, widen selection of jobs, a center for recreational activities.

2. temporary dormitory space for transient students.

3. to make a start toward a settlement type of service to help individuals and families in adjustment to urban living.

4. to act as a focus for a citizens group concerned with housing and working conditions for low income families.

B. With the following personnel:

1. man or woman to serve as head of the project who would have some background knowledge and concern for the Native people and who could work with an Advisory Board and the employed personnel in the center.

2. A mature couple to act as house parents with the man working out and the wife on salary as house-mother.

3. a woman to live in the hostel who may be working out but to act as a relief worker in the program of the center.

4. volunteer and part-time workers from the community.

C. With an Advisory Board of local people composed of representatives of the local Presbyterian church and Yukon Presbytery plus representation from local groups and agencies who would be interested and concerned and who would help in the support of a successful project. This Board would operate the center in a property owned by the Board of National Missions with a minimum subsidy from National Missions and maximum support from the girls living there and interested local people.

Following the report from Miss Miller the question was raised about a suitable place to operate such a center. It was reported that the Greiman house which had been considered was no longer available. It was reported that the American Legion Hall was offered for sale. This is a new log building 40 x 80 feet on two lots on Airport Way. It has a concrete basement and log superstructure. There is a fully equipped kitchen and assembly room in the basement with a large assembly room and stage on the first floor with toilets and several smaller rooms. It has an adequate heating plant and could be adapted for use as a center. The property has cost $55,000 including volunteer labor and is offered to us for $35,000. $3,000 to $5,000 might be necessary for alterations which money is in hand from gifts from interested parties. The building sat near the back part of the two lots with space for landscaping and parking. The Legion also owns the two lots back of the building which face on the back street. It has been suggested that these two lots which may be valued together at $5,000 should be purchased with the building.

The building is near the high school where evening classes are conducted, near a large housing development where housework and baby sitting would be available, away from the downtown area with wrong activities, and within walking distance from the area where many of the Eskimo families are living.

Using the personnel recommendations of Miss Miller the following tentative budget was recommended:

Personnel:		
Couple, husband working out, wife in	$1800	
Single man or woman part-time	2000	$ 3800
Operations:		
General supplies and maintenance	800	
Heat and utilities	2400	
Food costs net	2500	
Office equipment and supplies	100	
Use of a car	300	6100
		$9900
Less income from girls @ $3.00 a day		4000
Estimated maximum annual budget		$5900

The facilities needed should include; bedroom, sitting room, and bath for the couple; a room for the single woman worker; 4 double rooms and 2 single rooms with closet space for girls in residence; a bathroom for the girls--all on the first floor. The basement should include living room, play room, utility and storage, kitchen and 2 toilets.

Those present agreed that the Board of National Missions should be requested to purchase this building and, if possible the two lots behind it and make it available for the operation of the Center for Eskimos as outlined in the proposed program.

The American Legion owes $18,000 on the property and cannot continue to hold it for their use. They desire to sell it to us. They need money now and must find a buyer. They wanted an immediate commitment and payment which could not be given them. The request for purchase would have to go to the Board of National Missions and no action could be taken until the meeting of the Board on December 13th. The suggestion was made that funds which have been given by individuals for the Eskimo Center be used in the name of the First Presbyterian Church of Fairbanks to provide "earnest money" for an option on the property until the Board of National Missions meets to decide upon the request and recommendation for its purchase. A figure of $1,000 was agreed upon. Maurice Johnson, Fairbanks attorney, was asked to draw up a purchase agreement between the church and the Legion under which the $1,000 would be applied to the purchase price or if the Board was unable to purchase the property would be returned to the church.

The Meeting adjourned with a strong hope that the Board of National Missions would be able to purchase this property and make it possible with local help to start this much needed program and center as soon as possible.

J. Earl Jackman, Chairman
Cabinet of Missionary Operation
Committee on Eskimo Center

JEJ:dj
11/16/56

cc: Dr. Sharp
Dr. Baldwin
Miss Gladfelter
Miss Irvine
Mr. John Park Lee

All re Eskimo Center

MEMORANDUM

To: Cabinet of Missionary Operation Committee
From: Department of Work in Alaska

November 15, 1956

Attached is a report of our meeting in Fairbanks of the local Committee and our staff representatives on the project of the Eskimo Center. It is our recommendation to the Cabinet of Missionary Operation Committee and the Division of Missionary Operation:

2. That the Board be requested to purchase the American Legion Hall on Airport Way, Fairbanks, for the sum of $35,000 and, if funds are available, the extra two lots in back of the building for a price not to exceed $5,000 for both. The addition of these two lots will increase the value and usefulness of the building for present and future program.

1. That the program, plan for personnel, and advisory Board as recommended by Miss Isabel Miller be adopted in principle and be started as soon as possible after the purchase and renovation of the building for this use.

3. That the funds in hand from volunteer gifts be used for renovation of the building and any balance be placed in a fund to be held by the treasurer of the local Board for operation and maintenance.

4. That the CMO designate the Department of the Board of National Missions which shall have administrative relations between the local Board and the Board of National Missions.

5. That a sum, up to $5,000 as needed, be found in the Budget of 1957 to underwrite the project.

J. Earl Jackman, Chairman
Cabinet of Missionary Operation
Committee on Eskimo Center

JEJ:dj
cc: Dr. Sharp
Dr. Baldwin
Miss Gladfelter
Miss Irvine
Mr. John Park Lee

MEMORANDUM

To: Cabinet of Missionary Operation Committee
From: Department of Work in Alaska November 15, 1956

Attached is a report of our meeting in Fairbanks of the local Committee and our staff representatives on the project of the Eskimo Center. It is our recommendation to the Cabinet of Missionary Operation Committee and the Division of Missionary Operation:

1. That the Board be requested to purchase the American Legion Hall on Airport Way, Fairbanks, for the sum of $35,000 and, if funds are available, the extra two lots in back of the building for a price not to exceed $5,000 for both. The addition of these two lots will increase the value and usefulness of the building for present and future program.

2. That the program, plan for personnel, and advisory Board as recommended by Miss Isabel Miller be adopted in principle and be started as soon as possible after the purchase and renovation of the building for this use.

3. That the funds in hand from volunteer gifts be used for renovation of the building and any balance be placed in a fund to be held by the treasurer of the local Board for operation and maintenance.

4. That the CMO designate the Department of the Board of National Missions which shall have administrative relations between the local Board and the Board of National Missions.

5. That a sum, up to $5,000 as needed, be found in the Budget of 1957 to underwrite the project.

J. Earl Jackman, Chairman
Cabinet of Missionary Operation
Committee on Eskimo Center

JEJ:dj
cc: Dr. Sharp
Dr. Baldwin
Miss Gladfelter
Miss Irvine
Mr. John Park Lee

REPORT ON PROPOSED CENTER FOR ESKIMOS IN FAIRBANKS

On October 22, 1956 Miss Isabel Miller, Miss Helen Irvine, and Dr. J. Earl Jackman met with the Eskimo Committee of Fairbanks in the First Presbyterian Church of Fairbanks for further consultation on a program and place for a Christian center for the Eskimos of Fairbanks. Those present of the local Committee were Revs. Victor Alfsen, Chairman, Elmer Parker, John Stokes, Bert Bingle and Mr. and Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Rasmussen. Two visiting ministers from the states, Robert Lutz and James Upshaw, were also present.

Mr. Alfsen led the meeting with devotions.

The Eskimo population of Fairbanks was estimated to be between 600 and 800 with a very high percentage of them from that part of the Arctic area where the Presbyterian Church has comity responsibility. The number is increasing each year.

Dr. Jackman reported to the local committee on the presentation of this need to the Cabinet of Missionary Operation with the result that a staff committee was appointed to work with the Fairbanks Committee to get a specific proposal of program, place, and personnel for such a project. This Staff Committee consists of Miss Katherine Gladfelter, Dr. Harold Baldwin and Dr. Jackman as chairman. Dr. Baldwin reported that Mr. John Park Lee would act on the Committee for him. This Committee met in New York and asked for a specific statement of program from the Committee in Fairbanks. It was decided to ask Miss Isabel Miller to visit Fairbanks, study the situation and gather information so that a meeting could be held with the Fairbanks Committee when Miss Helen Irvine and Dr. Jackman would be in Fairbanks on October 22, 1956.

Miss Miller then gave her report as a result of four days of inquiries and contacts with agencies and people related to the situation. After a discussion of the situation and the need, Miss Miller recommended that a place be purchased and held by the Board of National Missions.

A. Where the following program could be pursued: -

1. to assist girls of working age in their adjustment to urban living with a place to live, help in locating a job, needed training, widen selection of jobs, a center for recreational activities.

2. temporary dormitory space for transient students.

3. to make a start toward a settlement type of service to help individuals and families in adjustment to urban living.

4. to act as a focus for a citizens group concerned with housing and working conditions for low income families.

B. With the following personnel:

1. man or woman to serve as head of the project who would have some background knowledge and concern for the Native people and who could work with an Advisory Board and the employed personnel in the center.

2. A mature couple to act as house parents with the man working out and the wife on salary as house-mother.

3. a woman to live in the hostel who may be working out but to act as a relief worker in the program of the center.

4. volunteer and part-time workers from the community.

C. With an Advisory Board of local people composed of representatives of the local Presbyterian church and Yukon Presbytery plus representation from local groups and agencies who would be interested and concerned and who would help in the support of a successful project. This Board would operate the center in a property owned by the Board of National Missions with a minimum subsidy from National Missions and maximum support from the girls living there and interested local people.

Following the report from Miss Miller the question was raised about a suitable place to operate such a center. It was reported that the Greiman house which had been considered was no longer available. It was reported that the American Legion Hall was offered for sale. This is a new log building 40 x 80 feet on two lots on Airport Way. It has a concrete basement and log superstructure. There is a fully equipped kitchen and assembly room in the basement with a large assembly room and stage on the first floor with toilets and several smaller rooms. It has an adequate heating plant and could be adapted for use as a center. The property has cost $55,000 including volunteer labor and is offered to us for $35,000. $3,000 to $5,000 might be necessary for alterations which money is in hand from gifts from interested parties. The building sat near the back part of the two lots with space for landscaping and parking. The Legion also owns the two lots back of the building which face on the back street. It has been suggested that these two lots which may be valued together at $5,000 should be purchased with the building.

The building is near the high school where evening classes are conducted, near a large housing development where housework and baby sitting would be available, away from the downtown area with wrong activities, and within walking distance from the area where many of the Eskimo families are living.

Using the personnel recommendations of Miss Miller the following tentative budget was recommended:

Personnel:		
Couple, husband working out, wife in	$1800	
Single man or woman part-time	2000	$ 3800
Operations:		
General supplies and maintenance	800	
Heat and utilities	2400	
Food costs net	2500	
Office equipment and supplies	100	
Use of a car	300	6100
		$9900
Less income from girls @ $3.00 a day		4000
Estimated maximum annual budget		$5900

The facilities needed should include; bedroom, sitting room, and bath for the couple; a room for the single woman worker; 4 double rooms and 2 single rooms with closet space for girls in residence; a bathroom for the girls--all on the first floor. The basement should include living room, play room, utility and storage, kitchen and 2 toilets.

Those present agreed that the Board of National Missions should be requested to purchase this building and, if possible the two lots behind it and make it available for the operation of the Center for Eskimos as outlined in the proposed program.

The American Legion owes $18,000 on the property and cannot continue to hold it for their use. They desire to sell it to us. They need money now and must find a buyer. They wanted an immediate commitment and payment which could not be given them. The request for purchase would have to go to the Board of National Missions and no action could be taken until the meeting of the Board on December 13th. The suggestion was made that funds which have been given by individuals for the Eskimo Center be used in the name of the First Presbyterian Church of Fairbanks to provide "earnest money" for an option on the property until the Board of National Missions meets to decide upon the request and recommendation for its purchase. A figure of $1,000 was agreed upon. Maurice Johnson, Fairbanks attorney, was asked to draw up a purchase agreement between the church and the Legion under which the $1,000 would be applied to the purchase price or if the Board was unable to purchase the property would be returned to the church.

The Meeting adjourned with a strong hope that the Board of National Missions would be able to purchase this property and make it possible with local help to start this much needed program and center as soon as possible.

J. Earl Jackman, Chairman
Cabinet of Missionary Operation
Committee on Eskimo Center

JEJ:dj
11/16/56

cc: Dr. Sharp
Dr. Baldwin
Miss Gladfelter
Miss Irvine
Mr. John Park Lee

MEMORANDUM TO THE CABINET OF THE DIVISION OF MISSIONARY OPERATION

From: Department of Work in Alaska

Date: November 29, 1956

Category:

Project: Recommendations re an Eskimo Center in Fairbanks, Alaska

In Fairbanks, Alaska, there are many Eskimo girls of teen age who need help in housing, guidance in adjustment to a city civilization, training for and assistance in getting jobs, and a center for Christian fellowship and recreation. Without this many of them are being exploited and are falling into evil company and evil ways. A large proportion of these are from Presbyterian communities in the Arctic and it is felt that our church has a responsibility to help them in these new and bewildering circumstances. Services and program activities are provided for them in the Fairbanks Church but much more needs to be done with them in Christian living. The Committee on Eskimo Work in the Fairbanks Church is asking for our help in setting up a program, providing a building with some program expense and guiding a local committee in taking responsibility for maintenance and operation of a Center.

The Committee of the Division of Missionary Operation after conference with the Fairbanks Committee and careful consideration of this need recommends:

1. That the Board approve of the establishment of a hostel in Fairbanks with a program which includes temporary housing for a minimum of ten girls over 16; vocational training and guidance, recreation for resident and non-resident youth, assistance in getting jobs and finding decent permanent housing and other service activities for Eskimo youth. The leadership personnel would include a resident couple (with the husband working out) and a single person (working in or out) who will assist in the program.

2. That the Board purchase the American Legion Hall in Fairbanks (a new 40ft. x 80ft. log building with concrete basement and first floor on 2 lots facing on Airport Way) for $35,000 and 2 vacant lots of the same size back of the building and facing on the rear street

Cabinet Action:

O.K. #1 O.K.
#2 no action but ask Priority Com to reserve $60,000 for a building. ask for recommendation of Ed Pfiffner and Glen Carson on ash. Leg - Hotel
#3 no action
#4 no action
#5 $6500 from Ed & Med.

Sec. _____ Date _____

MEMORANDUM TO THE CABINET OF THE DIVISION OF MISSIONARY OPERATION

From: Department of Work in Alaska

Date: November 29, 1956

Category:

Project: Recommendations re an Eskimo Center in Fairbanks, Alaska

Cont'd.

for $5,000 to be made available for the operation of this program.

3. That the Center be placed under the administration of the Department of Work in Alaska with the secretaries of C and I, Ed and Med and Work in Alaska acting as a consultative committee; that there be a representative local committee appointed by the headquarters Committee to be responsible for local support, maintenance and operation of the Center.

4. That funds in hand (about $5,000) from volunteer gifts be used for the renovation of the building and any balance be placed in a fund to be held by the treasurer of the local Board for operation and maintenance of the Center.

5. That a sum, up to ~~$5,000~~ $6,500. as needed be found in the 1957 budget to underwrite the program and get it started.

Approved by the Division of Missionary Operation Committee and recommended to the Cabinet of Missionary Operation for approval and recommendation to the Board.

Helen E. Irvine - participating
Katherine Gladfelter
John Park Lee for Harold H. Baldwin

JEJ:dj

J. Earl Jackman, Chairman

Cabinet Action:

Sec. _____ Date _____

December 26, 1956

V IA AIRMAIL
The Rev. Victor I. Alfsen
First Presbyterian Church
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Vic:

We have been going round and round on this matter of the Eskimo Center and a building in which to house it. The Cabinet of Missionary Operation has approved the development of the program as we conceived of it in our meeting together in Fairbanks during October. Since Dr. Starr is leaving the West Coast Medical Mission in southeastern Alaska, there will be some salvage there which can be used to undergird the program in Fairbanks. Our special committee on the Center and the Cabinet here feel very definitely that the single worker which we had included in the setup should be a full time trained Christian social worker and we have been authorized to seek such a person as soon after January 1, as she can be found. Miss Gladfelter has made the suggestion that we might borrow Lorna Logan from Ming Quong in California, who has been unusually successful in doing this type of work and in the development of good public relations in the community to get a response in interest and financial support from different agencies in the local community. We shall investigate this a little further.

No progress has been made in the matter of the building. The Cabinet requested an amount up to $60,000 from priority giving for the purchase and renovation of the American Legion Hall or the construction of a new building of similar size which would be adequate to carry out this program. This request was presented to the Priority Committee but no funds were available for 1956 and we would not know what is available in this field until the Board Meeting in February 1957. The Priority Committee declined to take any action looking toward a commitment until the whole matter of the use of priority funds was referred back to the Cabinet to see whether we were getting done the thing for which priority funds were intended, namely, the major renovation of the buildings which we now have in our mission program.

Full discussion has been given to the possible purchase of the American Legion Hall. When Glen Carson returned we discussed this building. He stated that the building was worth $35,000 and if we purchased it we should try to secure the additional two lots for another $5,000. The severe jolt came when we considered Ed Philleo's estimate of the renovation of the building for our use. When we added Ed's estimate of $18,000 to the $40,000 necessary to purchase the property it came to $58,000. Along with this was the statement from Ed that the building is "architecturally lousy" and we all recognize it is not the most attractive

looking building. Glen Carson and I discussed whether or not we might ask the Executive officers to permit us to use the funds which we have in hand from volunteer contributions to make a down payment toward the purchase of the Legion Hall, providing the Executive officers would also recommend to the Priority Committee that this building be purchased when funds are available in February. This was presented to the Executive officers who felt that they were not in a position to make a commitment on it in light of the fact that the Priority Committee had referred the whole matter of the use of the priority funds back to the Cabinet for further study and recommendation. In addition, they raised the question about basic policy of putting nearly $60,000 into the Legion Hall when Ed Phillco stated that we could build a new building of similar size better adapted for this program and better looking from the outside for approximately the same amount of money plus the cost of the land. The Executive officers took the position that they would rather recommend an additional $10,000 when the time comes for something which looks better and better fits our needs than to start in with a building which will need such a large amount of renovation. Their final recommendation was to seek a case worker, start the program as best we can and then bring in a request for funds for a building which they will support and recommend to the Board.

We tried to make it plain that a building is an essential part of this as a center from which a case worker would operate, a place of a limited amount of housing and a center for recreation and fellowship which is desparately needed. The question is raised whether we could find a corner for an office in the First Presbyterian Church, rent a house for residence for the case worker and some girls or find a storeroom downtown which could be setup as an Eskimo Center. We stated that either of these latter two points would be very expensive because of the high rents involved. The Executive officers felt it would be better to use a little money in this direction for a few months, if we had to, and be more sure of our developments than to purchase a building when the total project has not been put down in complete detail. There is still a question in what department of the Board's work the administration and budget of this would be carried. Pending that study the Cabinet and Executive officers have authorized me as chairman of this special committee here to begin the search for a case worker and arrange to start the program.

The project as thus far conceived and authorized from here does not overlook the service of Harry and Mabel Rasmussen. They would still come into the picture as the residents in charge of the Center when we come to that. Meanwhile, the case worker would be the single woman who would carry the program from the Center to the community. If you have any further suggestions at this point please let me have them from you and the Committee.

On the matter of the building, how long will the Legion wait for a final decision on the purchase of the Legion Hall? No funds will be available until after the meeting of the Board during the third week in February. It seems unlikely also that we can get any decision on whether or not we would purchase the building until after the Priority Committee meets just prior to this meeting of the Board.

If we would take the Legion building we could get underway in much less time and I feel from $10,000 to $20,000 less than if we waited to build a new one. Also, as Glen Carson said, we would not need to insulate the building on the inside immediately although this would save a considerable expense in heat over many months. Has there been any indication from the Legion what they would take for the two lots behind the building? A reasonable price on these two lots might have something to do with the decision as to whether or not the Board would purchase the property.

Sorry that we do not have a complete answer on this yet. We have made two steps of progress but it is doubtful whether we can get an answer on the purchase or provision of a building as the third step within the next six weeks. Meanwhile, it might be well to have a meeting of your committee there and see if you have any further suggestions which would strengthen our appeal here.

Regards to all.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman

JEJ:dj
cc: The Rev. Brian Cleworth

ESKIMO VILLAGE

ALASKA RAILROAD RESERVE

FE CO

SLATERVILLE

TIMBERLAND

GRAVEL

DERBY

TRACT

HAMILTON ACRES

CHENA RIVER PARK

OUR CHURCH

HEALTH CENTER

CEMETERY

U S M RESERVE

TO AIR PORT

LEGION HALL

FAIRVIEW MANOR

HI SCHOOL

YMCA

ARCTIC PARK

MOORELAND ACRES

SOUTH FAIRBANKS

SCHOOL SECTION

U S MILITARY RESERVATION

PROPOSED SITE FOR MENTAL HOSP.

NEW 12 LANE BOWLING ALLEY NO LIQUOR, TOO CLOSE TO CHURCH (BAPTIST)

FAIRBANKS, ALASKA AND VICINITY

SCALE 1" = 1000'

MAP PREPARED BY CITY ENG. DEPT.—1952

JAN 3 1957

First Presbyterian Church

Corner Cushman and Seventh
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

P.O. BOX 2157

VICTOR I. ALFSEN
Pastor

January 1, 1957

Dear Dr. Jackman . . .

Just a note to follow up our telephone conversation of New Years Day. The fellows here feel very strongly that we should secure the Legion Hall. Not only for the reason that it is a fine building for our purpose but that it represents such a "bargain" in real estate. How can a bunch of "scotch" presbyterians even hesitate???

As to a lot closer to the church. We are not so sure that we want it closer to the church. That would also make it closer to the bars and the downtown area; something we would like to avoid.

Located as the Hall is, it is right in the middle of the finest housing areas in town with ample possible opportunities for housework, baby sitting etc. It is three blocks from the new Fairbanks Medical Center where all natives will be examined and treated. Two blocks from the new YMCA for wholesome recreation; and if Fairbanks gets the nod, the Hall will be within easy walking distance of the new Mental Hospital (300 bed) with all kinds of opportunities for work for the Eskimo girls in the kitchen, clean-up, and so on.

Negotiations are now in progress about a possible lease for renting the hall and beginning our Eskimo program on a limited scale. Partitions of a temporary nature would be installed in the basement giving one room for the Rasmussens and two for the girls. The up-stairs large room could be used by groups for rentals; such as the Mennonite group now using it. Any rent money could be credited toward the purchase price. (Rent money from the Board for the whole Hall of course)

We submitted our request for help in a Financial Drive for this May. And we are still hoping for a review by the Board of our insurance accounts. Seems we are carrying insurance on a building that nomlonger exists.

In Christian Fellowship,

Vic

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America
156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.

January 23, 1957

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. Victor I. Alfsen
Box 2157
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Vic:

We have had another discussion here on the matter of the Eskimo Center and have come to the place where we can give you some definite conclusions upon which you can act.

All of us recognize the need for a special Christian service to the Eskimo youth of the Fairbanks area and want to have something done to meet the social, moral, and economic needs of these young people, especially the girls. Attention has been given to the proposal of operating a Center in and through which this service can be offered under the supervision and control of the First Presbyterian Church of Fairbanks and the Board of National Missions.

The correspondence indicates that the First Church of Fairbanks feels a responsibility to do something about this. In keeping with this spirit and the Board's recent plan to encourage local churches in National Missions areas to take responsibility for local missionary projects, we would suggest that the First Presbyterian Church take the responsibility for this project through the organization of a local Board of Management which would be composed of two-thirds or three-fourths Presbyterians and the balance representatives of public or private agencies and organizations which would be related to or interested in service and funds to assist the project. The Presbyterian representation should be composed of our ministers, members of the Session and congregation of First Church, the Presbytery, and the Board of National Missions. This local Board would be empowered to conduct the program, employ personnel, rent a building, raise, receive, and manage finances.

The local Board should have a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. When the Board has organized and is ready to handle funds, the Board of National Missions will forward the gifts of individuals and churches which are being held for this purpose with the designation of the donors on how the gifts are to be used which includes program, purchase and/or construction of a building. Funds for the same purpose should be raised in Fairbanks. In addition, the Board of National Missions will provide a subsidy up to $6500. in 1957 for personnel and program. Monthly reports shallbe forwarded to the office showing the activities, number of people served, financial receipts and expenditures, and a narrative telling the story of events.

In addition to the financial assistance, members of the staff of National Missions will be available for any help in areas of specialities or selection of qualified personnel. In discussing this project, the Cabinet of Missionary Operation felt that it is highly desireable to have a trained Christian case worker as one member of the staff.

The Executive Officers of the Board of National Missions want it understood that on the basis of the engineer's report, they do not favor the purchase of the American Legion building.

The Board of National Missions understands that the local Board has authority, within the funds available and to be received during the year, to employ a worker or (2) workers, one of whom shall have had special training in the field of Christian social work, rent a building as a Center, make modest temporary alterations, and incur expenses for the program.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman. Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

CC: The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth
The Rev. Bert J. Bingle